Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-90-013
Friday
19 January 1990

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FBIS-EAS-90-013 *19 January 1990*

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Japan

Spokesman on Soviet Withdrawal From Vietnam

OW1901105590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Japan welcomes the Soviet decision to withdraw military aircraft from facilities on Vietnam's Camh Ranh Bay, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday. "We welcome that announcement from the viewpoint of peace and stability in the Southeast Asia region," said spokesman Taizo Watanabe in a meeting with foreign correspondents. "But we would like to see what is really going to happen, not only as to the remaining aircraft, but also other ground facilities and forces," Watanabe said.

The spokesman was referring to Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim Perfilyev's announcement in Moscow earlier Friday that MiG-23 fighters and Tu-16 Badger reconnaissance planes at the Cam Ranh airfield were withdrawn at the end of 1989, leaving only a squadron of other aircraft. Perfilyev said the move was in line with the Soviet plan to convert its Armed Forces in the Asia-Pacific region "to a purely defensive structure" and thus help defuse regional political-military tension.

A senior Foreign Ministry official said while the partial withdrawal is welcomed by Japan from a political standpoint, its strategic significance is questionable. The official said the Soviet move, which has no major effect on the overall military balance, is aimed at garnering Moscow political points from Southeast Asian countries. Japan's national security interests are more directly concerned with Soviet naval power in Vladivostok, he said.

The official said the withdrawal represents a dissolution of Moscow's earlier proposal to remove its naval presence in Cam Ranh Bay if the United States does likewise in the Philippines. The two are strategically "incomparable," he said. Watanabe also noted reports that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told a U.S. Senate delegation Friday that all Soviet forces in Asia would be withdrawn in the not-too-distant future. Defense Agency officials would not comment on Shevardnadze's remarks, but said they are now attempting to confirm the extent of the Soviet pullout from Cam Ranh Bay.

Agency officials said they noted heavy air traffic from the strategic bay in the South China Sea to the Soviet Far East late last month. But defense officials have downplayed the significance of any possible pullout of air forces from Cam Ranh Bay, warning that the planes could be redeployed at any time because facilities there have been greatly expanded.

Any reduction in Soviet aircraft would not directly influence Japan's defense policy, according to the officials. But the withdrawal is nevertheless expected to bolster the Soviet argument for talks with Japan and the United States on mutual naval reductions in the Pacific. Japan and the U.S. have rejected the Soviet equating of reductions in naval power with cuts in ground forces, saying they need naval superiority to counter the Soviet superiority on land.

Japan, which last month boosted its defense budget for fiscal 1990 by 6.1 percent, has asserted that the Soviets have been upgrading the quality of their forces in the region. It has also suggested that the quantitative reductions in Soviet forces in the region should be viewed with an eye to the already excessive level of Soviet military power deployed here.

Moriyama Comments on Northern Islands Issue

OW1601045190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0422 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—Top government spokeswoman Mayumi Moriyama said Tuesday she expects negotiations on a longstanding territorial dispute with the Soviet Union to make progress following a "subtle" change in the Soviet position. She was referring to remarks by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in talks with former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe in Moscow on Monday.

"There has been a gradual, subtle change from the stage when the Soviet Union refused to recognize the (northern territories) problem," the chief cabinet secretary said. "I expect this to have a desirable influence on future negotiations," she told a regularly scheduled news conference.

Moriyama denied that a proposal presented by Abe to Gorbachev on expanding economic relations marked a change in Japan's foreign policy. "There is no change in our policy of no separation of politics and economics," Moriyama said. "A somewhat abstract principle has become a little more concrete," she added. The territorial dispute concerns four islands off Hokkaido which Japan is demanding be returned by Moscow. They were occupied by the Soviets at the end of World War II. Abe is in Moscow through Wednesday as head of a high-powered delegation representing the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. He explained an eight-point proposal to Gorbachev to provide Moscow with quality control expertise and other economic know-how.

Tokyo TV Interviews Nakayama on European Trip

OW1901074690 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1200 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama upon his return from a European trip with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, by NHK newscasters Jiro Hirano and Yoshiro Shimizu at the NHK studio in Tokyo; from the "NHK News Today" program—live]

[Text] [Hirano] Minister, thank you very much for being with us. You must be tired. At the begining of your trip, newscaster Shimizu said that your schedule would be

tighter than any package tour. On a 100-point scale, how many points would you give your trip?

[Nakayama, laughing] Well, I think different people would give it different scores, depending on how they look at it. However, I can give it more than 90 points.

[Shimizu] One of the things Prime Minister Kaifu emphasized most during his latest tour was his Berlin speech. Can we get a videotape recording of his speech, please? [Video shows Kaifu delivering his Berlin speech, stressing Japan's determination to actively contribute to the stabilization of world order] I gained a deep impression from this speech. Previously, when it came to diplomacy, I think that Japan tended not to get involved unless a matter concerned it directly. This time, however, Mr Kaifu said that Japan would actively contribute to the formation of a new international order. For a moment, I doubted my ears. Can we construe that he made those remarks consciously, bearing a shift or a turning point in Japanese diplomacy in mind?

[Nakayama] That is right. Well, Mr Shimizu, you mentioned affairs which do not directly concern Japan. Now, thanks to perestroyka and glasnost in the Soviet Union, as well as the diplomacy of new thinking in the foreign policy area, the East European people, in the communist-ruled socialist economic sphere, rose up in pursuit of freedom. Ultimately, reform took place in Romania, enveloping the entire country. Looking at it from a historical point of view, the framework of international politics is bound to change once in dozens of years. This is not an event confined to Europe. The United States is involved, as is Asia. In this sense, Japan, which has become a very powerful country economically, showed its desire to actively foster cooperation as a member of the summiteers in this new age of liberalization and democratization.

In Europe, Prime Minister Thatcher, Chancellor Kohl, and President Mitterrand have their own historical viewpoints or, in a certain sense, philosophical viewpoints. Prime Minister Kaifu met them in person, listened well to their views, and stated his own views. In the final analysis, the China issue, which broke out in Asia, is big. Therefore, I think it is of great significance that Japan had an opportunity to personally explain its position in Asia to the European leaders.

[Hirano] Now, Mr Minister, it has become clear that the countries in East Europe, which are proceeding with the work of creating new nations, have high expectations of Japan. But as to how Japan should help them—other than the one specific case of Suzuki Motors advancing into Hungary—there have not been many concrete results. As a result of having met with leaders in East Europe, have you been able to determine if conditions conducive to Japanese cooperation are being created there?

[Nakayama] Well, aside from the question of extending grants for economic stability... [changes thought] The leaders there realize that they have no experience with a free economy. They want Japan to help them with the know-how that will enable them to operate a new economic system. In other words, what they want most is for Japan to help educate people in the area of managerial expertise, while providing technology for new industries. There are things we had not even thought about. In Poland, for instance, there are no banks for private citizens to use; there are only government banks. There are also no wholesalers or agents. They want to start businesses under such circumstances. This is not going to be easy for them.

[Shimizu] In connection with assistance to East Europe, the formation of a European Development Bank, led by France, is being planned. There reportedly is a question as to whether the Soviet Union should be included as a loan beneficiary. The United States is said to be strongly against this. Is Japan absolutely against this, too?

[Nakayama] As for the European Development Bank, among G-24 nations and G-36 nations, discussions are being held at present on such basic matters as which nations should contribute funds and which nations should be beneficiaries. The United States has its opinions, as does Japan. To judge from opinions in the United States, there are people in Congress who think funds provided to the Soviet Union can be used for military purposes, but the European Development Bank is aimed at providing capitalization funds for enterprises to be set up in the countries that have adopted a free economic system. This bank differs from other ordinary banks. The purpose of the bank is for all European nations, as well as the United States and Japan, to contribute funds so that they can be used by entrepreneurs establishing enterprises in the countries that are launching free economic systems. The efforts of this bank are expected to have a major impact on the international economy.

[Shimizu] Separate from Mr Kaifu, former party General Secretary Abe was in Europe at about the same time, and had talks with General Secretary Gorbachev on the northern territories issue. He was successful in eliciting remarks that can be understood as forward-looking. As the top official in charge of foreign affairs, how do you evaluate the meeting?

[Nakayama] I think it was very excellently handled. I met with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze in New York last year and with Mr Yakovlev once when he came to Japan. Mr Shevardnadze is now scheduled to arrive in Japan in March. I think it was out of special consideration for Japan that the Soviet side, despite the very difficult situation within the USSR, spared time to accept Mr Abe, fulfilling the invitation extended to him when he was the party general secretary.

[Hirano] It has been observed that General Secretary Gorbachev's position is shaky, and such observations have affected stock prices. When you were on your trip, you had a chance to view Mr Gorbachev's position from a European perspective. Do you have anything to tell us?

Have there been any noteworthy reports on the present position or the future of Mr Gorbachev?

[Nakayama] According to the viewpoint of some, it is possible even more difficult conditions will arise in the Soviet Union, but the prevailing view is that there is no man who can push perestroyka and glasnost policies in lieu of Mr Gorbachev.

[Shimizu] Does this mean that there is no possibility that the Gorbachev will be brought down?

[Nakayama] At this stage, no.

[Shimizu] I see.

[Nakayama] That is what many people said.

[Hirano] Thank you so much for sharing your time. We know you are very tired.

[Nakayama] Don't mention it.

Japanese Missions To Travel to East Europe

EPA To Send Group in Feb

OW1601121290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1101 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—The Economic Planning Agency (EPA) will dispatch a fact-finding mission to Eastern Europe in early February to open the way for information exchanges between Japan and the East European bloc, EPA officials said Tuesday. The mission will make a one-week visit to Hungary, Bulgaria and East Germany, beginning February 6.

The plan came in preparation for future economic exchanges with Eastern bloc countries, which are struggling to transform their economies into more market-oriented ones, the officials said. The officials said Japan can offer know-how on economic liberalization based on its own experience during the postwar period. The agency intends to use Hungary, with which Japan has maintained firm ties for years, as a springboard for deeper relations with other Eastern bloc nations, they said.

It also plans to conduct a hearing on four nations in the region, including Poland and Czechoslovakia, through an affliated research institute. A report will be issued within the year, they said.

Federation To Name Delegation

OW1601123290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1152 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 16 KYODO—The Japan Federation of Employers' Association (Nikkeiren) plans to send a mission to East European nations to help develop the human resources necessary for political and economic democratization in the region, the federation said Tuesday. Nikkeiren President Eiji Suzuki told a regular press conference that the federation will be sending a delegation on its own initiative rather than participate in a joint mission as proposed by similar business groups in Japan.

Suzuki expressed support for the meeting on Monday between Shintaro Abe, former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Suzuki said the visit was a timely one considering the rapidly changing political climate worldwide. He said that Japan should further boost economic assistance to the Soviet Union to help consolidate support for Gorbachev, whose leadership is considered vital if other Eastern bloc nations are to successfully pursue political and economic reforms.

Economic Planning Agency Head Returns Home

OW1501192290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1121 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 15 KYODO—Economic Planning Agency Director General Sumiko Takahara returned home Monday from an eight-day trip to Singapore, Thailand and Australia. Takahara met officials of the three countries to discuss how to promote cooperation among Asia-Pacific countries.

More on 18 Jan Shooting of Nagasaki Mayor

Suspect Arrested

OW1801152190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1449 GMT 18 Jan 90

["Nagasaki Mayor Shot by Right-Wing Terrorist"—KYODO headline]

[Text] Nagasaki, Jan. 18 KYODO—Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima, who once termed the late Emperor Hirohito as responsible for World War II, was shot and seriously wounded Thursday, police said. The assailant, who was identified as a member of a right-wing group, was arrested later in the day.

Motoshima, 67, was taken to a hospital where he remained conscious, police said. The bullet pierced his right lung and it will take one month to heal completely, said Masahiko Hayashida, a doctor at the hospital.

Police arrested the suspect five hours later on suspicion of attempted murder. He was indentified as Kazumi Tajiri, 40, a member of the Nagasaki-based right-wing group "Seikijuku." Motoshima was shot in the back as he was getting into a car outside the main entrance to city hall.

Motoshima told the local assembly in December 1988, one month before the death of Emperor Hirohito, posthumously called Emperor Showa, "I think the emperor was responsible for the war, judging from accounts in foreign countries, descriptions by Japanese historians and my experience as an educator in the military." The prefectural branch of the ruling Liberal Democratic

Party [LDP] demanded that Motoshima, then adviser to the branch, retract his remarks, but he refused to to so. The LDP's branch then sacked Motoshima as adviser. Right-wing groups marched through the streets of Nagasaki in December, 1988, protesting his remarks. Police have since guarded Motoshima around-the-clock.

The Catholic mayor has continued to speak out. He said freedom of speech is important, despite harsh backlash, including death threats, from right-wing extremists. On March 31 last year, several pistol bullets were fired at the city hall. A 63-year-old hospital director was arrested in July last year for allegedly sending a threatening letter to Motoshima containing bullets. Police eased their vigil December 12 at Motoshima's request. Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu expressed deep regret over the shooting, saying violence should never be permitted. Chief Cabinet Secretary Mayumi Moriyama also condemned the shooting and told reporters it would have "an immense impact on society." Takako Doi, Chairwoman of the No. 1 opposition Japan Socialist Party, said "I got angry from the bottom of my heart. A civil society would never permit mean terrorism."

Editorials Condemn Act

OW1901065990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0450 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 19 KYODO—Major Japanese newspapers Friday condemned a right-wing extremist's attempted assassination of Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima as a "brutal and mean challenge to democracy." Motoshima, who once said the late Emperor Showa was partly to blame for World War II, was shot and seriously injured Thursday by a member of a right-wing group.

The YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Japan's largest daily newspaper, said that violent suppression of free expression is a serious threat to a democratic society and should never be permitted. It called freedom of speech the most important element of democracy and said that such a brutal and illegal act endangers a democratic society. A society which loses tolerance of those with opposing opinions will pave the way for a violent community, it warned.

The ASAHI SHIMBUN said in its editorial that freedom of expression should be guaranteed and that violent suppression of speech will lead to fascism. It also stressed the need to freely discuss matters related to the emperor, who is an official symbol of the unity of the Japanese people in the Constitution.

The MAINICHI SHIMBUN said the shooting incident proved that freedom of speech as guaranteed by the Constitution is not yet deep-rooted in Japan. The MAINICHI editorial emphasized that terrorism should not be allowed to inhibit free expression.

The SANKEI SHIMBUN said that expressing one's opinions freely should be guaranteed in a democratic society under all circumstances.

Direct actions, including harrassment and threats against those with different opinions, pose a serious challenge to democracy, it concluded.

Editorial Views U.S. Military Accidents

OW1301182390 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 11 Jan 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "Regrettable Frequent U.S. Military Accidents: What Has Become of 'Enforcement of Discipline'?"]

[Excerpts] Recently, incidents and accidents involving U.S. forces in Okinawa have evidently been increasing in number. On the morning of 10 January, a U.S. military truck overturned while trying to avoid a collision with civilian vehicles at Henoko, Nago City, thereby ramming into the concrete fence of a private residence. The truck was tugging a trailer loaded with ammunition. Although the ammunition was immediately retrieved from the site by the Marines, one shudders at the thought "What if something had happened?"

In connection with incidents and accidents involving the U.S. military, an incident occurred as recently as 22 December in which a bomb fired during live ammunition firing exercises inside the Camp Hansen training ground landed close to the Onna District chief and his company, who were cleaning the water source located in the training area.

There have been repeated requests by various political parties and groups for measures to prevent accidents every time a similar incident or accident caused by U.S. military personnel occurs. Each time, the U.S. military has promised that accidents will not be repeated. However, in reality, incidents and accidents have continued to happen, and the prevailing situation is that there is merely a rehash of requests and promises.

The above facts show that as long as U.S. forces are stationed in a small place like Okinawa, incidents and accidents will not disappear. In that sense, the best basic solution would be the dismantling of U.S. military bases.

However, because the bases already exist, corresponding measures should be taken. Otherwise, our prefecture's people will suffer. This is because there is no way we resign ourselves to the fact that incidents and accidents are unavoidable unless the bases are dismantled. We would like to seek efforts from concerned offices. [passage omitted]

If we look at the recent series of incidents and accidents, we will notice mismanagement, loose discipline, and immaturity. When such things inflict harm upon the prefecture's people, they cannot be brushed aside as the U.S. military's internal affair.

In addition, discrimination against the Okinawan people is considered a serious matter. As seen in the air gun shooting incidents, which targeted Okinawan pedestrians, we have to say that such incidents are an insult to the prefecture's people.

There are different kinds of people among the large number of soldiers stationed here. We do understand that some of them are indiscreet. They are unworthy as military men stationed in a foreign country and thus are intolerable.

In view of the frequency of such incidents and accidents, the prefectural police, during a liaison meeting with the U.S. military investigation unit on 16 November 1989, strongly requested the U.S. military to enforce strict discipline and prevent crimes. The U.S. military gave its promise.

As mentioned earlier, this was not the first time the U.S. military had been asked to enforce discipline. The prefectural government and its administrative arm have made similar requests. The reason why nothing has been done may be because of the obstacle created by the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty, which provides the Japanese side with no power to investigate and try such cases when they occur.

The Status of Forces Agreement [SOFA] based on the security treaty constitutes the legal framework to be observed by the U.S. forces. It has been said that the agreement gives U.S. forces preferential treatment. Such leniency may be a factor behind the U.S. soldiers and their dependents' easygoing attitude.

The SOFA will soon come up for revision. We strongly urge the government and the Diet to revise the provisions of this SOFA, which is notorious as a "unequal treaty".

The prevention of incidents and accidents involving U.S. military personnel is not only a problem of the U.S. military; it is also a problem of the Japanese side.

Nago City Assembly Protests Truck Collision

OW1301180190 Naha NHK Television in Japanese 0315 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] In connection with the incident on 10 January in which a large U.S. military truck loaded with ammunition overturned on the national highway at Henoko, Nago City and rammed into the concrete fence of a private residence along the road, Nago City today held an emergency session of its assembly. The assembly adopted a protest resolution and a statement, demanding, among other things, the discontinuation of military exercises.

The Nago City Assembly began its emergency session at 1000 today. In connection with the incident on 10 January in which a U.S. military truck transporting ammunition overturned on National Highway 329, Deputy Mayor Yoshimoto gave a briefing on the details of the accident and the protest action at Camp Schwab yesterday. Subsequently, an assembly member moved for the adoption of the protest resolution and the statement on the accident. The protest resolution and the statement pointed out that the site of the accident was near a densely populated residential area and was on the path children take to walk to school. The documents said that this U.S. military accident, which could possibli have caused a great tragedy, has aroused great fear and anxiety among the residents of the Henoko District and citizens of Nago City. They expressed strong indignation at the recent accident, which occurred at a time when memories of a helicopter crash last November and a series of other U.S. military accidents are still fresh.

From the standpoint of protecting the safety of lives and properties of the citizens, the documents also sternly protested the way accidents and dangerous objects are managed, vigorously demanded the strict enforcement of discipline, and strongly demanded the discontinuation of all forms of military exercises and the dismantling of bases in Nago City. The resolution and the statement were unanimously passed by the assembly, and will shortly be sent to concerned Japanese and U.S. offices.

The city assembly also plans to lodge a protest and petition with the Defense Facilities Administration Bureau and the prefectural assembly.

Paper Criticizes Jetliner-Fighter Incidents

OW1501043490 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 13 Jan 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial: "Near Misses on the Brink of Disaster"]

[Text] The achievement of peace both at home and abroad is what is meant by "Heisei" [the name of the current era in Japan], according to official explanations. However, immediately after the New Year's holiday, this prefecture showed that it is full of dangers within and far from being peaceful at home.

To the surprise of the people of Okinawa Prefecture, on the morning of 11 January, a U.S. military vehicle carrying ammunition crashed into a civilian residence at Henoko in Nago City. This incident has been followed by the recent close calls.

It was announced by the Transport Ministry that a Japan Air Lines' [JAL] Osaka-bound DC-10 jetliner and a Tokyo-bound jumbo jetliner ascending after takeoff from Naha Airport on 10 and 11 January, respectively, had close calls as close as 150 meters with military aircraft believed to be F-15 fighters of the U.S. Forces.

The close calls occurred 70 to 90 km north northwest of Naha Airport. Such close calls at an altitude of 4,000 to 5,000 meters cannot be called anything but abnormal. A slip of only a slight distance could have resulted in a tragic midair collision.

Moreover, the JAL airliners, which received flight information on the U.S. fighters, reportedly could not visually

spot them because they were in the clouds. The planes averted collisions, and realized the close calls only after descending from the clouds. No one knows what would have happened had they remained in the clouds, where visual confirmation was impossible.

There were actually no accidents, but the situation should be taken seriously. Transport Minister Eto told a press conference after the 12 January cabinet meeting: "It is lucky that there was not an accident. I could have been sacked from my position had therre been one." If an accident had actually occurred, the dismissal of a cabinet member probably would not have sufficed. The minister also said: "I will lodge a protest if it is proven that U.S. military aircraft were involved." The Transport Ministry should waste no time investigating the truth about the consecutive close calls and take appropriate countermeasures.

What is unconvincing to us is the reaction of the U.S. forces. The Self-Defense Forces [SDF] announced: "We had no aircraft within the vicinity of the close calls." However, the Kadena Air Base Information Office, as late as 12 January, commented: "The facts have not yet been confirmed and are still under investigation."

They may be saying that since fighters make visual flights, keeping no communication with the control tower, it is impossible to discern the facts immediately. The fact is that civil airplanes sensed danger and took measures to avert a collision. There may be a gap in the sense of danger between military and civilian pilots. It would be frightening if this were true.

Since they fly on predetermined courses, civilian planes cannot fly with a sense of security about fighters on training flights. It is very doubtful that a lesson has been learned from the disaster involving an All Nippon Airways airliner and an SDF aircraft in the skies over Shizukuishi in Iwate Prefecture in 1971.

It has often been pointed out by pilots and aviation people that the skies over Okinawa are dangerous. However, it is not clear as to what extent the situation has improved. Having an almost identical close call occur on successive days, we can hardly believe that the authorities are seriously dealing with close calls.

Lately, the U.S. forces have been conspicuously displaying too much arrogance; for example, the accident in which a U.S. military vehicle overturned, the close calls, and the reactions shown afterward. The accidents did not end in disaster, but they were just one step away from disaster.

Hitachi To Increase EC Semiconductor Production

OW1301014690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1440 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 11 KYODO—Hitachi Ltd. will set up an integrated production system at its semiconductor plant in West Germany in preparation for the complete integration of the European Community (EC) market in 1992, company officials said Thursday. As a result, 4-megabit dynamic random access memory (dram) production at its subsidiary, Hitachi Semiconductor (Europe) GMBH, in Landshut, Bayern, will increase to 500,000 units a month.

The EC has let it be known that upon its integration, only semiconductors wholly produced in the Common Market will be exempted from duties. This policy has prompted Japanese semiconductor makers to start moving toward integrated production in that region.

Fujitsu Ltd. and Mitsubishi Electric Corp. have already decided to build integrated production plants in Britain and West Germany, respectively. Hitachi will also start building a circuit printing plant in the compound of its West German plant in June at a cost of about 25 billion yen to start integrated production in the spring of 1992, the officials said. Its output will include 1-megabit static rams and application specific integtated circuits (asic) as well as 4-megabit drams.

Mongolia

Sodnom Comments on Sofia CEMA Session

OW1601070190 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Mongolian Prime Minister Sodnom has characterized as successful the 41st Council for Mutual Economic Assistance session. On Friday he returned home from Sofia after taking part in the council session. Its major outcome has been the unanimous decision to radically renew the activity and organizational structure of the council, said Mr Sodnom in an interview with a MONTSAME agency correspondent.

Another important aspect of the session has been the discussion of the questions related to a broad application of the market economy in economic relations of the council member states, noted the prime minister. Concerning Mongolia's position at the session, Mr Sodnom said that he approved the transition to current world prices which is beneficial for Mongolia's foreign trade. The December plenum of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee passed an important resolution on conducting an open-door policy, which means that Mongolia must not restrict its foreign economic ties just within the circle of the socialist countries, but expand its contacts with the third countries under the principle of mutual benefit. From this viewpoint, we must use free currency and world market prices in mutual dealings, underlined the Mongolian prime minister.

Significance of CEMA Council Session Noted

OW1601054890 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] The recent 45th Council for Mutual Economic Assistance [CEMA] session held in Sofia, Bulgaria, has been an event of paramount significance, writes the Mongolian Trade Union newspaper HODOLMOR. The council, during the last 40 years, has played an important part in the social economic development of the member states and augmenting their economies.

Nonetheless, the last session focused its attention on radically restructuring the system and mechanisms of multilateral cooperation with the council; its organizational setup; currency, financial, and credit relations, and price formation. In this sense it was a turning event for renewing and streamlining all its activities. This is also of vital significance for the development of Mongolia's economy and raising the people's wellbeing, underlines the HODOLMOR.

Batmonh Greets Mongolians on New Year

OW1601045390 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 1 Jan 90

[Text] General Secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, Mongolian President Jambyn Batmonh, addressed the Mongolian people over the national radio and TV in connection with the new year of 1990. [Batmonh is briefly heard speaking in Mongolian, fading into English translation]

The Mongolian leader extended New Year's greetings to the entire people of Mongolia and also to the experts of the socialist countries working in Mongolia. In 1989, the Mongolian people recorded substantial progress in implementing the party and government decisions designed to perfect reconstruction in all spheres of social life and also the planned socio-economic development targets.

He especially underlined the efforts of the rural inhabitants who in 1989 raised a record number of young animals and harvested a bumper crop. Thanks to democracy and openness, the resolution of the masses is growing, their political and labor initiative are developing on an unprecedented scale, and a creative atmosphere is establishing itself in the society. These are the main features of 1989, said the Mongolian leader. He indicated that 1989 has been a year which marked the beginning of enormous efforts at creatively applying the ideas of scientific socialism in the specific conditions of the country and revealing and further augmenting the humane and constructive nature of socialism.

The recently held seventh party plenum and the parliamentary session summed up the course of the reconstruction process, defined ways of further deepening and intensifying it, and spelled out the basic development tasks for 1990, said Batmonh. He explained that the Mongolian people will work energetically to implement the plenum and parliamentary session decisions.

Batmonh underlined that as new political thinking set in motion by the Soviet Union may express advances in international relations [words indistinct] for delivering the world of wars and violence [words indistinct] and peaceful coexistence of nations. Intensive forces of renewal and reconstruction in the socialist countries are (?really) important revolutionary, creative, and universal (?forces) of significance not only to the future of socialism but also to the entire world. [Passage indistinct] is developing in its own way in each and every country [words indistinct] it is advancing and gaining momentum, said the Mongolian leader. He expressed the hope that these processes will further develop intensively in the socialist countries in the new year.

Mongolia is fully determined to further extend its friendship and all-round cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, declared Batmonh. Mongolia will strive to expand its friendly ties with the other countries of the world, particularly with all the countries in the Asia - Pacific Region in the economic, political, and cultural spheres, said Batmonh. The Mongolian People's Republic is fully determined to make concerted efforts for global peace and security and work with [words indistinct] for making irreversible the present (?transition) in international relations, underlined the Mongolian leader.

Batmonh said that stupendous tasks face the country in 1990 which will be the year of the 20th party congress. He underlined the (?imperative) need of resolutely doing away with costly work methods and habits and invariably developing democracy, openness, [word indistinct] discipline and responsibility [words indistinct] and resolving the tasks facing the country and speeding up her progress.

Apart from the enormous gains and successes there are many problems which can be tackled provided that each and every citizen makes sizeable contributions.

In conclusion, the Mongolian leader Batmonh underscored the imperative need of supporting in every way positive beginnings, initiatives, and efforts, starting and economizing existing economic and other resources, and, on this basis, improving the cultural and living standards of the people. He wished happiness and fresh successes to the entire people of Mongolia in 1990.

Batmonh Speech Explains 'Restructuring' Policy

OW1701082590 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 27 Dec 89

[Text] On December 26, Mongolian President and party leader Jambyn Batmonh spoke over national radio and television. He dwelt on the outcome of the last Seventh Plenary meeting of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and the last session of the Great People's Hural of Mongolia, parliament, and

took up pressing issues of the policy of renewal. Next are the main points of this speech:

The main object of the plenary meeting of the party and the session of the Great People's Hural was to deepen and intensify the new processes in Mongolia, said Mr Batmonh. He stressed that the policy of restructuring has created an entirely new situation in Mongolia. What is important is to learn to work and live in these new conditions, said Batmonh. The fifth plenary meeting of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee held in December 1988 gave an analysis of the past history and present day situation in Mongolia and condemned the grave errors and distortions of the past incompatible with the just and human nature of socialism.

I would like to note that the mistakes committed in the past did not derive from socialism's essence and were, in actual fact, linked with the distortion of the basic principles of socialism, he said. Jambyn Batmonh outlined four main causes which served as factors hampering this country's progress. The first of them is excessive centralization of power in party and state bodies, restricted democratic institutions, preponderance of the command and administrative methods, violation of the law, and voluntarism. Next is the gap which formed in property-producing relationships as a result of the excessive concentration of property into the hands of the state. This led to the suppression of the economic interest which is society's motive force. This concentration of the socialist power into the hands of the state was the economic basis of the command-administrative system.

Another gap which formed was to be found in relations between the population and the state bodies. Though there have been formal democratic institutions, the population did not have the possibility to fully participate in the running of society and in the production management. The reign of the command-administrative method also affected the society's intellectual progress which also was restricted. All this served as factors which both impeded the growth of productive forces and secondly the intellectual expansion. That is why the policy of renewal has its source from the real imperatives of the progress.

The principal method of carrying out renewal is expansion of democracy and openness in all spheres of social life. There is no dreaming of implementing renewal without democratic basis. That is why the key of the latest decision of the party lies in changing excessive centralization and switching over initiative to working people. The main purpose of the renewal is to perfect socialism. The central aspect of this process is well-being of man. The essence of the last decisions of the party tends towards this very goal. There is no reason to abandon the choice we have made, that is, socialism and renewal. There can be no departure from this choice. We should well be aware of the fact that the renewal process which covers all spheres of social life is not an easy task which can be implemented at one stroke. The real results of the renewal depend on how we shall work. This depends on the efforts of every work collective and everyone working.

Jambyn Batmonh went on to say that we must not deny the achievements that we have accumulated under the years of socialist construction with the aid of the Soviet Union and some other socialist countries. We should realistically assess the fact that our level of development is inferior to that of other socialist countries; all the more reason to fully mobilize our entire resources and use them in a highly effective way. Jambyn Batmonh said that, while perfecting socialism, our object is to build a law-governed state. He said that a broad-ranging work is needed to be done in order to improve our state laws. President Batmonh said that we shall be able to innovate things if we bring together our potentialities.

North Korea

Protest Lodged Against U.S. 'Provocations'

SK1901104590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Panmunjom January 19 (KCNA)—A security officers' meeting of the Military Armistice Commission (MAC) was held here today at the proposal of our side, at which our side lodged a strong protest with the U.S. imperialist aggressors against criminal acts they had committed against it in flagrant violation of the Armistice Agreement and the agreed points between the sides and took them to task for this.

According to the security officer of our side Pak Yonghum, at around 14:40 on January 17, two U.S. guards who were running down in a jeep from the post of their side situated on the hill northwest of the conference room of the MAC committed a provocation, brandishing their fists and making disgusting gestures of hands at personnel of our side who were on their routine duty on the opposite side.

Earlier, on January 15 when a working-level contact of North-South sports talks was under way, the U.S. imperialists posted around the conference room 45 more military personnel than the prescribed number. That day, a guard of the enemy side provoked a guard of our side with a threatening gesture with his hands as if he were going to beat the latter to death.

Similar provocations were committed on January 10 and 11.

The security officer of our side sharply accused the U.S. side, asking it what would happen, if it persisted in provocations that enrage the opposite side in the joint security area where tension constantly prevails.

The security officer of the enemy side denied all the incidents protested by our side and reversed facts, alleging that we were "increasing the tension".

In the first 18 days of the new year, the irresponsible attitude and undisciplined acts of the U.S. side caused a total of 24 cases of provocation and violation.

The security officer of our side said that the U.S. imperialists, looking straight at the present situation of the joint security area, must act with discretion and take a responsible measure to stop the acts of provocation and violation against us.

If the U.S. side continue rendering the situation strained in the joint security area despite our repeated warnings, it will be held wholly responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

U.S. Aerial Military Exercises Denounced

SK1601230790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 16 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors, following the announcement of the plan of the "Team Spirit 90" joint military maneuvers, are getting overheated in aerial military drills for aggression on the North while bringing brasshats of the aggression forces into South Korea in the [words indistinct] inspection group" and "observers' group" for a series of confabs for operations of the military exercises, according to military sources.

They staged a joint aerial military exercise simulating a surprise attack on the major targets of the Northern half of Korea for three days, from January 12 to 14, with several formations of assault planes [word indistinct] electronic jammers based in their overseas aggression bases in combination with "F-16" and "F-4" fighter-bombes, "A-10" assault planes and other types of fighter planes belonging to the air force of the U.S. imperialist invasion forces stationing in South Korea.

This aerial military racket shows of their own accord that they tried to make it appear that they are interested in the relaxation of the tension and peace in Korea, but they are in fact stepping up preparations for a war against the North.

Chong Chun-ki Urges South To Come to Conference

SK1701153090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1524 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Pyongyang January 17 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities must no longer reject a nationwide dialogue for reunification and pursue the policy of division and confrontation but come out to the table of the consultative meeting for national reunification, said Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the North side's Preparatory Committee for the Consultative meeting.

In a statement issued today to the press, he said:

We proposed to the South side to have preliminary talks involving representatives of the authorities, political parties and organizations of the North and the South at Panmunjom around January 17 this year for the convocation of the consultative meeting for national reunification proposed at a joint meeting of the authorities, political parties and organizations in the Northern half of the country in September last year. But the talks have failed to open till this date owing to the negative stand of the South Korean authorities.

Their insincere attitude is entirely contrary to our stand and the will of the nation to find the nation's common way of reunification as early as possible and promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, he said, and continued:

The consultative meeting for finding a common way of national reunification must be called without fail both in view of the national character of the question of Korea's reunification and of the nation's desire to make 1990 a year of turn in destroying the barrier of division and opening up an epochal phase for national reunification.

We believe that, if the politicians of the North and the South sit together and discuss the reunification question related to the destiny of the nation, they will be able to narrow the difference, widen the commonness and reach an agreement, no matter how great the difference of views may be in the way of reunification and no matter what complicated problems may arise.

If the consultative meeting for national reunification proposed by us is to be opened successfully on February 20, Chong Chun-ki said, the efforts of one side alone are not enough and both the North and the South should make joint efforts.

We will watch the attitude of the South Korean authorities, he declared.

Communique of 17th WPK Plenum Reported

SK1401011590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 9 Jan 90

["Communique" on the 17th Plenum of the Sixth Workers Party of Korea Central Committee held from 5-9 January—place not given; read by announcer]

[Text] The 17th Plenum of the Sixth WPK [Workers Party of Korea] Central Committee was held from 5 to 9 January.

The great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee, presided over the plenary meeting. Present at the meeting were members and candidate members of the Party Central Committee and members of the Party Central Auditing Commission. Also presentwere officials of central and local parties, administrative, and economic institutions and managers and party secretaries of plants and enterprises as observers.

The agenda was as follows:

On more vigorously waging a struggle to increase production and economy in all domains and units of the people's economy

The plenary meeting was held at an exciting atmospherein which, upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's historic New Year addressand filled with confidence in a sure victory and revolutionary optimism, the entire party and all the people, full of hope, have started a new march toward the grand-scale struggle goals for the 1990's. The entire plenary meeting proceeded with a high revolutionary ardor to fly the banner of victory on a higher peak of socialist construction by again scoring new upsurges in production and construction.This clearly demonstrated the unshakable will of our party and people to fight to the end to complete the chuche revolutionary cause after being strongly united around the party and the leader.

Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and premier of the Administration Council, made a report, which was followed by speeches by many comrades.

The great leader of our party and our comrade, Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee, made a concluding speech.

The plenary meeting reviewed the great victory and proud achievements made in socialist economic construction and the grand construction campaign in the 1980's under the leadership of our party.Also discussed were important tasks for effecting a new great revolutionary upsurge in the 1990's.

The plenary meeting noted with great pride that the eighties were years of creativity and upswings when the grandest-scale change was effectedt in the history of socialist construction in our country. It was also a period of honor when the invincible might and leadership of our party, which is successfully building socialism under the banner of the chuche, was vigorously demonstrated in all the domains.

The plenary meeting noted:

The main forces of our revolution have been further strengthened, and the political and ideological unity of the revolutionary ranks has been invincibly consolidated and united in a struggle to realize our party's slogan calling for modeling the entire party and society after the chuche idea. In the eighties, all of our party members and workers staunchly struggled through all difficulties by demonstratingg high revolutionary spirit and militancy, thus making big progress in implementing the great program of socialist economic construction.

The most shining success in socialist economic construction in the eighties is the great victory won in the grand construction to realize our party's construction program. Industrial construction of unprecedented scale was successfully promoted under the leadership of the party, and, as a result, the productive and technological foundation of our industry and its great potential have grown incomparably. Large-scale hydraulic and thermal power stations, non-ferrous metal mines, and new smelteries have been under construction; modern metallurgical plants and iron ore mines have been built or expanded; and large-scale construction has been underway to ensure that the machine industry and electronic and automation industry will be developed. As a result, the chucheization, modernization, and scientification of the people's economy has been vigorously accelerated, and the self-reliance and independence of the economy of our country has been further strengthened. In particular, the victorious completion of the construction of the world-class Sohae Lock Gate and the 1st-stage construction of the Sunchon vinalon complex, the successful construction of the Sariwon potash fertilizer complex, and the construction of monumental edifices in Pyongyang, the revolutionary capital, and all other areas across the country have vigorously demonstrated our people's revolutionary spirit and wisdom.

We successfully hosted the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students, while carrying out—in a few years—a vast construction program that would have taken dozens of years at ordinary speed. This was a proud success and a great victory that could be won only in the age of the Workers' Party.

The achievements by our people in the grand construction of the eighties are the proud demonstration of the political and economic might of our revolution, which has been endlessly strengthened under the banner of the chuche idea. The achievements in the grand construction which brightened the eighties are a clear demonstration of the invincible might and superiority of our country's socialist system, which was established based upon of the chuche idea and which is developing as required by it.

The plenary meeting went on to stress:

The socialism which has its roots deep in our country is socialism of our style which is peculiar in its guiding idea, guiding theory, and guiding method. It is also the most solid and viable socialism which conforms to the aspiration and demands of our people and which enjoys their unquestioned support.

Our reality shows that the socialism of our country is a true socialism which gives fullest scope to the inexhaustible creativity of the popular masses and which makes it possible to effect a constant upsurge in economic construction.

The plenary meeting noted with pride that the great victories in socialist construction in the eighties were a result of the vigorous three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural.

The plenary meeting said:

The line of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—is a strategic line that is the core of

our party's line of building socialism and the most correct line that makes it possible to successfully build socialism without the slightest deviation or twist. Our party and people were able to successfully crush the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration and challenges, and score endless innovations and upsurges in all the domains of revolution and construction by vigorously marching—without any sign of vacillation—along the road elucidated by the line of three revolutions.

After pointing out with great pride that we owe all the victories and proud achievements in the eighties to the might of our people who are single-heartedly united around the party and the leader, the plenary meeting stressed:

The grand onward movement of the eighties shows that any obstacle to socialist construction can be victoriously conquered when the party trusts the people, when the people trust and follow the party, and when the party and the popular masses, in firm unity, thoroughly implement the chuche-orientated revolutionary line.

Stressing the unshakable determination of our party to achieve a greater victory in socialist construction in the nineties based upon the proud achievements and valuable experiences gained in the revolution and construction over the past period, the plenary meeting advanced important struggle tasks to make fundamental progress in economic construction.

The plenary meeting said:

Presently, an important matter in socialist economic construction is to push ahead with new construction projects and, at the same time, to consolidate the already existing economic foundations and make them pay off. The foundation of the self-reliant national economy, which we have provided by highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, is very powerful and its productive potential is incomparably great. Because a grand productive potential was provided in the grand construction campaign of the eighties, brilliant prospects have been opened so that we can make decisive progress in the struggle to successfully fulfill higher production goals and to achieve the complete victory of socialism. Pointing out that the most important task in making the economic foundation, which has been provided, pay off, is for the entire party and all the people to vigorously wage a struggle to increase production and economize in all the domains of the people's economy with a revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and assiduous struggle, the plenary meeting said: "Let us make the already existing economic foundations pay off through increased production and economy!" This is the requirement of our party at present and the militant slogan that we should lift up in the new general movement forward.

Our party's call to maximize production and economization most correctly reflects the inevitability of socialist construction and the realistic demands of the developing economy of our country. It also reflects the high revolutionary zeal and aspirations of our people to more rapidly and properly build socialism. This militant call of the party is an expression of our party's firm and invariable determination and will to completely advance the cause of socialism in our own way. The firm guarantee for epochally improving the people's standard of living by correctly mobilizing and utilizing the enormous production potential of our self-reliant economy and for fully enhancing the incomparable superiority of our socialist system in the economic field lies precisely in increasing production and in practicing economization in the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude.

Strengthening the efforts to increase production and economization is one of the basic principles governing socialist economic management. In the postwar rehabilitation period when everything was destroyed and turned into ashes, our party set forth the militant slogan of the maximum increased production and economization and led all fields of the national economy to strengthen the struggle for increased production and economization. As a result, we could effect a great upsurge of chollima in socialist construction.

The plenary meeting indicated that in upholding the slogan of increased production and economization the entire party, all the people, and all the army should effect a new upsurge in socialist construction by waging once again a vigorous struggle with the revolutionary zeal and militant mettle that they displayed in the period of the great upsurge of chollima—which recorded a most brilliant chapter in the history of socialist construction in our country.

The plenary meeting proposed the tasks and ways to more vigorously wage the struggle for increased production and economization in all fields and units of the national economy in conformity with the demands of today's socialist construction of our country.

Saying that an important task at present in the struggle for increased production and economization is to regularize production on a high level in all fields of the national economy, the plenary meeting indicated: Regularizing production is a policy that our party has consistently adhered to in economic work. Regularizing production on a high level is an inevitable requirement of a socialist economy which develops according to plans. It is also an important way to constantly increase production by fully utilizing the production capability that has already been provided. Only by regularizing production can the might of the socialist economic system in our country be enhanced and thus a constant upsurge be effected in socialist economic construction.

The plenary meeting set forth the goals for the production of coal, power, rolled steel,cement, and railway transport at present through regularization. The meeting also set forth the targets for grains and textiles and the construction of dwelling places to more smoothly meet the people's food, clothing, and housing needs.

Stressing that to regularize production at a high level in all fields of the national economy it is imperative to

concentrate efforts, first of all, on the extraction industry and railway transport, the plenary meeting indicated: The extraction and railway transport fields are important parts of the national economy to which priority should be always given in production and construction, and the key to regularizing production at present is to firmly give priority to thesefields.

The meeting stressed that priority should be given to production and supply of those facilities and materials necessary for the extraction industry and railway transport. It also stressed that all fields and units of the national economy should give labor and material assistance to coal mines, mines, and railways, and that they should vigorously wage a support campaign for the extraction industry and railway transport through a nationwide movement.

The plenary meeting indicated the need to concentrate efforts on the repair and maintenance of plants, enterprises, and production facilities and on their technological improvement work so as to regularize production and to fully utilize the existing production capability.

The plenary session set the task of giving full play to the production potential of the chuche-oriented industry by vigorously conducting the struggle to increase production and economization in all industrial fields, including the capital industrial field.

The session noted: Today the potential of our capital industry is boundless and its portion of the national economy is very great. Vigorously struggling to boost production and economization in this key industrial field, which is a great part of our economy, is an important task which is primarily presented to effect a new upsurge in socialist economic construction.

Stressing the question of increasing the production of fuel, power, raw materials, and materials and of economizing on them, the plenary session noted that great efforts should be directed at increasing the production of electric power, the basic power of the national economy, and using it frugally.

The plenary session pointed out: The already secured capacity of power generation should be fully utilized in an effective way and new technology should be actively introduced to increase the production of electric power and to dynamically accelerate the construction of new power plants.

Emphasizing that attention should also be paid to frugally using electricity along with its production, the plenary session noted that all units and fields of the national economy should intensify the struggle to economize electricity, thus unceasingly lowering the level of power consumption and producing more with less electricity by correctly organizing cross-production.

The plenary session noted that the struggle to increase the production of coal—the food of industry—and to economize it should be vigorously staged.

The plenary session pointed out: The production of coal should be increased by further modernizing production systems in all coal mines and by widely applying advanced working methods to production. Also, the coal production base should be more firmly built up by developing new coal mines in areas with high potential.

Stressing that the struggle to economize coal should be intensified in all fields of the national economy, the plenary session noted: Heat production equipment should be remolded into modern equipment and new expertise should be introduced to increase combustibility. The scientific and technological field should smoothly solve scientific and technological problems in producing and utilizing heat.

The plenary session noted: All fields should use steel products, oil, and timber as frugally as possible and utilize them in the most effective way.

The plenary session noted the question of vigorously struggling to increase production and economization in the light and chemical industrial fields.

The plenary session pointed out: The light industrial field should vigorously struggle to fully take advantage of the already secured production capacity and at the same time, produce more fabrics and shoes, economizing raw materials and labor power by modernizing weaving equipment and by using plastic as the main raw material of shoes.

The plenary session noted: To normalize and further boost production in the light industrial field, the chemical industrial field should guarantee the smooth production and supply of chemical raw materials, including chemical fabrics and synthetic resins.

The plenary session noted: The local industrial field should increase the percentage of production with local raw materials by fully using the already secured production capacity and by more solidly building up local raw material bases.

The plenary session set the task of solving existing strains on, and of increasing the effectiveness of, investment by fully mobilizing reserves in the railway transport field and the capital construction field.

The plenary session noted: A railway is the pilot of the national economy and the artery of the country. Transporting more freight by fully mobilizing and utilizing railway transport potential is a very pressing problem in guaranteeing the balance between production and transport and in accelerating socialist economic construction as a whole.

Saying that production is precisely transport and vice versa, the plenary session noted that railway freight turnover should be doubled in a few years by fully enlisting transport reserves in the railway transport field. The plenary session noted that dynamically staging the 18 May no-accident, on-time, traction-standard-surpassing movement initiated by our party is the most

active way to fully enlist and utilize transport reserves in reliance upon the revolutionary zeal and creative activeness of the functionaries and workers in the railway transport field.

The plenary session noted: More freight should be transported to socialist construction sites in a timely manner by actively introducing advanced working methods to the railway transport field, by reducing train turnover time, by actively introducing heavy-duty rolling stock, and by thoroughly implementing the three-point transport policy.

Saying that what is of great significance in the struggle to increase production and economization is the removal of waste in the capital construction field and the development of investment efficiency, the plenary session called for directing efforts at the already launched construction of major objects and houses by thoroughly implementing our party's policy of concentration in construction.

The plenary session noted: Great efforts should be concentrated on industrializing and modernizing construction. Also, the speed of construction should be further increased and labor power and materials should be saved by introducing rational structure forms and construction materials in the design and construction of objects.

The plenary session emphasized the role of science and technology in intensifying the struggle to increase production and economize and noted: The present is an era of science and technology, and the role of science and technology in economic development has increased more than ever before. Today when the economic scale has been incomparably enlarged and its material and technological foundation has been consolidated, the greatest reserve for increasing production and economization in our country lies in developing science and technology.

We have adequate conditions and possibilities for rapidly developing science and technology, and the foundation for its development has been laid—1.35 million intellectuals firmly armed with the chuche idea and modern scientific and technological knowledge have been secured. When we take advantage of these precious assets, there is nothing we cannot do, we can find enormous reserves for increasing production and economization, and we can effect greater upsurges in socialist economic construction.

The plenary session noted: The scientific research institutions and the scientists and engineers in all fields should smoothly solve, from the chuche-oriented standpoint, scientific and technological problems in accelerating the chuche-orientation, modernization, and science-orientation of the national economy, in increasing production, and in saving and effectively utilizing fuel, raw materials, and power.

The plenary session set forth the task of rapidly developing trade with foreign countries.

The plenary session noted that the system of trade work should be established in a more orderly manner.

The plenary session called on all fields and units of the national economy to vigorously struggle to produce and construct more with their own raw material and other materials.

The plenary session stressed that today's struggle to increase production and economize is not mere economic and practical work, but important political work to make the entire party and society overflow with a new revolutionary mettle by mobilizing the ideology of the masses. The plenary session presented measures to this end.

The plenary session set forth the task of intensifying the struggle to increase production and economize by firmly adhering to the great Taean work system and by actively improving the work of economic management and operations.

The plenary session pointed out: The Taean work system created by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song is the most superior socialist economic management system of our own style which embodies the great chuche idea.

The historical experience in our country clearly shows that the Taean work system is, indeed, a correct socialist economic management form which makes it possible to manage and operate the economy in a scientific and rational manner in conformity with the demands of the inevitable development of the socialist economy.

Only when we continue to adhere to and thoroughly implement the Taean work system, whose justness and vitality have been confirmed through practice, can we unreservedly give play to the boundless potential of our country's socialist economic system and effect a new revolutionary upswing in economic construction.

Stressing that the great superiority of the Taean work system lies in actively arousing the voluntary passion of the masses by combining the party's leadership with the revolutionary mass lines, the plenary session noted: Embodying the mass lines in economic management is a basic spirit of the Taean work system and its revolutionary nature. By giving priority to political work in economic management, we should actively arouse the voluntary enthusiasm and creativity of the masses and thoroughly implement the demands of the revolutionary mass lines in all sectors of enterprise management, thus powerfully demonstrating the superiority of the socialist collective economy which is managed and operated with the popular masses as masters.

Emphasizing that as demanded by the Taean work system, the collective guidance of the party committees should be strengthened and guidance over production and technology should be further improved, the plenary session noted: Production should be normalized at a high level and the maximum technological and economic

effectiveness should be achieved by organizing production in a scientific and technical manner and by giving priority to preparations for technology and production.

Stressing that labor administration is political work—work with people—the plenary session noted: Workers should be firmly armed with a chuche-oriented viewpoint toward labor; labor organization and management should be improved; and labor conditions should be smoothly guaranteed. Thus, the amount of production per worker should be drastically boosted.

The plenary session pointed out: All fields of the national economy should thoroughly observe the principle of unitary financial management, further tighten fiscal control, correctly enforce the cost accounting system in keeping with the transitional characteristics of the socialist society, and properly use economic levers.

The plenary session set forth the task of further intensifying the party's guidance over the struggle to increase production and economize.

The plenary session noted: Firmly ensuring the party's guidance over socialist construction and increasing the militant function and role of party organizations are decisive guarantees for intensifying the struggle to increase production and economize materials and for effecting new upsurges in socialist economic construction.

The party's leadership is an artery in the socialist society in which the whole country constitutes a single political and ideological organism. A genuine way to fully display the matchless superiority of socialism over capitalism and to constantly consolidate and develop the socialist economic system lie in strengthening the party's might and increasing the militant function and role of party organizations.

When the party's leadership over the revolution and construction is further strengthened and political and ideological work for workers is adhered to, the might of the revolutionary ranks can be made invincible and socialist construction can be steadily advanced. This is a precious truth taught by the experience of our party which has led the revolution and construction on the straight road of victory for a long period of time.

Party organizations at each level should firmly realize the party's guidance over socialist construction and intensify political and organizational work so that the struggle to increase production and economize can be vigorously waged as the movement of the masses themselves.

Stressing that enhancing the role of infrastructural party organizations is important in strengthening the party's guidance over the struggle to increase production and economize, the plenary meeting indicated as follows:

The infrastructural party organizations, which took their roots deep in production sites and which carry out the work and activities directly with the masses, are playing a very important role in accelerating the socialist construction. Only when the combat strength of infrastructural party organizations is strong can the might of the party be strengthened and socialist construction be successfully advanced.

All lines and policies of our party were thoroughly implemented and the party's policies were turned into a vivid reality in the past because the party's decisions were conveyed expeditiously and well to the masses thanks to the militant functions and role of infrastructural party organizations and because the masses always breathed and struggled with the party.

We should see to it that the combat strength of infrastructural party organizations is fully demonstrated in today's pan-national struggle to maximize production and economization.

The plenary meeting stressed that party organizations at each level should strengthen the ideological indoctrination work with the workers. The meeting pointed out that functionaries and workers should firmly arm themselves with our party's chuche idea so as to create an incomparable sense of dedication and labor exploits in production and construction by assuming the attitude worthy of masters for the nation's housekeeping and by cherishing the revolutionary spirit for self-reliance and arduous struggle, revolutionary optimism, and lofty patriotism.

The plenary meeting emphasized that the guidance functionaries should energetically organize and command the grand socialist march movement by cherishing a lofty revolutionary spirit and combat strength. The plenary meeting indicated as follows:

A lofty revolutionary spirit and combat strength are important traits which our guidance functionaries—the commanding members of the revolution—should deservedly cherish. If our functionaries carry out the work with such a spirit as the one exhibited at Nagwon, where a large-size water pump was produced on the empty, postwar land and with such revolutionary spirit as one of the working class of Kangson which produced 120,000 tons of steel billets from a blooming mill with only a 60,000-ton capacity, there is nothing that they cannot accomplish under today's circumstances in which all necessary conditions are provided.

All guidance functionaries should skillfully organize and command all work by demonstrating a sense of endless dedication to fulfilling the revolutionary mission and by cherishing such a revolutionary and militant spirit as was demonstrated during the postwar days.

Stressing that the popular work style should be more thoroughly established in the entire party and functionaries should highly demonstrate the spirit of dedicated service to the people, the plenary meeting indicated as follows:

One principle which our party consistently adhered to is inspiring guidance functionaries to devotedly work for the people by correctly combining the guidance with the masses. Our party is the revolutionary party which, assuming the devoted service to the people as its lofty mission, is struggling with full dedication. No work is more glorious and more valuable for all of our functionaries than to work by dedicating everything they have for the people as genuine servants and attendants of the people.

With lofty awareness that they were born from the people and are serving the people, the guidance functionaries should always mingle with the masses, should make all possible efforts to say what they think and what they demand, and should successfully carry out the revolutionary tasks by actively inspiring the strength of the masses.

With revolutionary work traits and a renewed work style from the beginning of the 1990's, the guidance functionaries should go down to the underground mines and production sites where the working class is laboring, and should actively work with the men. In addition, they should teach the masses by always learning from the masses and should struggle in firm unity with the masses as one.

While giving a great significance to the struggle to increase production and economize waged by party organizations by combining this struggle with the mass movement, the plenary meeting stressed:

The struggle to increase production and economize can be successfully carried out only when all of the people unanimously rise and wage this struggle as a mass innovations movement by upholding the party's intent.

Fully mobilizing and utilizing the reserves and potentials to increase production society wide constitutes a huge task which can be accomplished only in the socialist society where the popular masses work as the master of plants and facilities.

Party organizations should vigorously wage the struggle to increase production and economize as a pan-national and all-people struggle by combining it with the movement to win the red banner of the three revolutions and the movement to follow and learn from unheralded heroes so as to make all the people the creators of innovations and exploits who can accelerate the economic construction with the might of the mass movement.

While emphasizing the strengthening of the party's guidance over the workers' organizations, the plenary meeting pointed out as follows: Workers' organizations including those of the Socialist Working Youth League and trade unions, should organize and carry out ideological indoctrination for youth and workers and broadly organize a competition movement to increase production and various social movements so as to make the entire nation and all the people rise unanimously in the struggle to increase production and economize in response to the party's appeal.

The plenary meeting emphasized that this mass struggle is a rewarding struggle to glorify the hopeful 1990's with new upsurge and innovations and is a boundlessly sacred struggle for the prosperity and development of the nation and for the happiness of the people. The plenary meeting indicated as follows:

All conditions and potentials have been provided for us to effect a new upsurge in socialist construction by vigorously waging the struggle to increase production and economize. Our people are the proud people who glorified the honor of socialism through scientific lines and policies based on the chuche idea and who created a proud history and tradition of struggle.

As long as there is the superior socialist economic system which provides more reserves and potential for production growth as socialist construction deepens, and as long as there are heroic people who vigorously rise and unconditionally accomplish any task if the party so appeals, there is nothing we cannot accomplish nor is there any stronghold which we cannot occupy.

It is a proud trait of our society that the party believe the people and the people trust the party, and the party and people fight in firm unity. The might of such great unity and cohesion is being highly displayed. Herein lies the basic key to strengthening the struggle to increase production and economize and to effecting a great upsurge in socialist economic construction.

While stressing the significance of this struggle to be waged in the first year of the 1990's, the plenary meeting indicated as follows:

Today's mass struggle is a glorious work for unfolding a new history of great revolutionary upsurge with the spirit of adding the speed battle to chollima. It is a rewarding struggle to vigorously demonstrate the creative might and ability of our party and people who are faithfully building socialism in conformity with the demand of chuche.

When the tasks put forward by the current plenary meeting are accomplished, the economic might of our country will leap onto a new stage and our people's material life will be smoothly ensured at a higher standard together with an independent political life and rich cultural life. Thus, the socialist new life, in which the genuine ideal of the independent human being is embodied, will be more extensively realized.

Just as the plenary meeting of the party Central Committee held in December 1956 was a significant plenary meeting which opened the origin of the revolutionary upsurge with the struggle to increase production and economize, the current plenary meeting will be permanently recorded in the history of our party as the significant meeting which provided an epochal turning point

in creating the proud new history of revolutionary upsurge in the 1990's and in our people's struggle for national reunification.

The plenary meeting expressed the firm belief that all party members and workers, unanimously rising by upholding the party's militant appeal, will register a new upsurge in socialist economic construction by vigorously waging the mass innovations movement to increase production and economize.

The plenary meeting adopted relevant decisions and reviewed the issue of organization.

Comrade Yun Ki-pok was elected as secretary of the party Central Committee. Comrade Ho Kuk-song was relieved from candidate membership of the party Central Committee and elected as full member of the Central Committee. Comrades (Chu Sang-son), (Kim Sang-kyu), (Yi Won-che), Kim Pong-ul, (Choe Ki-yong), (Chu Yang-hun), (Yi Tae-se) and (Yi Hak-sok) were elected as candidate members of the party Central Committee.

South Korea

North Offer for Joint IPU Delegation Spurned

SK1801130090 Seoul YONHAP in English 1243 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—South Korean lawmakers and government officials spurned Thursday a North Korean offer to form a single Korean delegation at the 84th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) General Assembly this autumn, dismissing it as an "unrealistic and irrelevant" proposal. National Assembly speaker Kim Chae-sun is expected to make clear Seoul's negative response at a news conference scheduled for Friday.

Participants in a meeting held Thursday to discuss the proposal agreed that Pyongyang's real intention was to turn North Korean people's attention away from domestic affairs for fear of the potential impacts of the sweeping reforms in the East Bloc. They also evaluated the latest offer as a deliberate peace offensive eventually aimed at blocking Seoul's bid to join the United Nations separately from Pyongyang.

Pak Chung-su, head of South Korean delegation to the IPU, said participating in a combined team will violate IPU regulations calling for only one delegation for each nation.

The meeting was particpated by floor leaders of the four political parties, chairman of the National Assembly foreign affairs-unification committee, special National Assembly unification committee, head of South Korean delegation to the IPU and vice unificaiton minister.

Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of North Korea's Sumpreme People's Assembly, delivered a letter to Kim Chae-sun Wednesday proposing a single inter-Korean delegation at the General Assembly that Pyongyang hopes to host.

Chae-sun Comments on Decision

SK1901071590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0541 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 19 (YONHAP)—South Korea rejected Friday a North Korean proposal to send a single Korean delegation to the 84th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) General Assembly in Pyongyang this September.

National Assembly Speaker Kim Chae-sun, in a news conference, said it is not necessary for the two Koreas to hold a separate round of inter-Korean parliamentary talks to discuss formation of a single delegation to the IPU congress.

"Now is the time for both sides to make all efforts to realize a South-North Korean parliamentary conference, the preparations for which are under way in preparatory meetings," Kim said.

North Korea, in a letter from Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, to his South Korean counterpart on Wednesday, said it was willing to host the IPU General Assembly in September and proposed a meeting Feb. 7 at the truce village of Panmunjom to discuss formation of a unified delegation.

Kim welcomed North Korea's hopes to host the IPU meeting and said the South Korean National Assembly was willing to help its Northern counterpart by sharing the accumulated experience from holding an earlier IPU meeting in Seoul.

Sending a single delegation to the IPU meeting would not only violate articles 3 and 11 of the IPU covenant but also disregards the reality that the two Koreas should have a common position on outstanding political issues to form such a delegation, which at present it is difficult for them to do, Kim said.

Pak Chol-on Confirmed To Have Visited Pyongyang

SK1901040690 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 18 Jan 90 p 1

[Article by reporter Kim Tu-u: "Minister Pak Chol-on Went to Pyongyang on 30 June Last Year"]

[Text] It has been confirmed that First Minister of State for Political Affairs Pak Chol-on went to North Korea on 30 June last year and came back the next day, on 1 July, after attending the opening ceremony of the Pyongyang festival and secretly meeting with Ho Tam, at a time when the country was going through a political situation dominated by security affairs following Yim Su-kyong's secret visit to Pyongyang.

On 18 January, a government official who took part in this plan said: "Minister Pak, then adviser to the president for political affairs, left for Pyongyang at around 6 in the morning on 30 June last year, passing through Panmunjom. On 1 July he attended the opening ceremony of the Pyongyang festival and talked for hours with Ho Tam, chairman of the Committee for Peaceful

Reunification of the Fatherland. They agreed to keep what they had discussed secret."

The government official went on: "Kang Chae-sop, DJP lawmaker who landed a proportional representation seat in the National Assembly, and Kim Yong-hwan, then director of the secretariat at the Office of the South-North Dialogue who is now on temporary duty at the Agency for National Security Planning, accompanied Adviser Pak on his trip to North Korea. At that time, some in the government made their strong objection to the trip known, citing as reasons the fact that student activists' demand that they be permitted to go to the Pyongyang festival had become stronger in the wake of the secret visits to Pyongyang by lawmaker So Kyong-won and the delegate of the National Council of University Student Representatives Yim Su-kyong. Nevertheless, Adviser Pak pushed ahead with his plan for the visit, arguing that he could not call off the plan because he had 'promised the North side.' He also came back through Panmunjom."

The government official said that Adviser Pak made another secret visit to Pyongyang in March last year and verified the rumor that prior to this, he had met with Han Si-hae, North Korea's vice foreign minister, in Singapore on 24 January last year. The government official slso said that it remained to be seen whether Adviser Pak would make yet another trip to Pyongyang for similar purposes.

He added: "In the secret contacts with North Korea's Ho Tam and Han Si-hae, Adviser Pak explained to them a new proposal our side was working out for reunification at that time. When the objection of some of the officials in the government to the proposal for reunification through the unification of systems—a policy on which Advisor Pak was working—forced the government to modify its substance and announce it as a proposal for a Korean community, Advisor Pak is reported to have expressed his displeasure and said, 'It has turned out that I told lies to the North side.' Thus, he had for a while friction with the Ministry of National Unification Board."

Minister Pak's visit to North Korea during the Pyongyang festival was brought to the public attention first by independent lawmakers Pak Chan-chong and Yi Chol, but it was denied repeatedly in statements released respectively by Spokesman for Chongwadae Yi Su-chong, Minister of Culture and Information Choe Pyong-yol, and Minister of National Unification Board Yi Hong-ku. In response to written questions from lawmaker Pak Chan-chong, Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun flatly denied his charges, saying: "Neither did I approve of Advisor Pak's request for a visit to the North, nor did I tell him to go to Pyongyang."

Minister Pak himself said: "I went to Taegu to pay a visit to my old ailing mother on 1 July last year."

PPD To Send Representatives to North for Talks

SK1801063690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0606 GMT 18 Jan 90

[By Hong Sang-pyo]

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung said Thursday his Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) will send several representatives to North Korea in the first half of the year for talks with government and party representatives there if the government approves the trip.

Kim, president of the PPD, also said he will carefully consider visiting the communist North himself "if the government fully endorses my travel and I am confident in it" after reviewing the hoped-for trip by his party's representatives.

"I think a visit by PPD representatives to North Korea is in the national interest because it will show the North that any attempt to confuse the South's politicians is doomed to fail," Kim said in a news conference.

President No Tae-u promised the PPD leader a week earlier that he would allow political parties to make limited direct contact with North Korea to discuss inter-Korean matters. No's promise was an important change of attitude by the South Korean Government, which had insisted it should be the sole channel for inter-Korean contacts and exchanges.

On domestic matters, Kim spoke out against moves by the other parties to reshape Korean politics and possibly revise the Constitution to replace the current presidential system with a parliamentary cabinet system.

He denounced a ruling party proposal to form "a grand coalition of conservative forces" as an attempt to change the political balance from a strong opposition and a weak ruling party to a strong ruling party and a weak opposition.

Kim Tae-chung also accused his rival opposition leaders—Kim Yong-sam of the Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] and Kim Chong-pil of the New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP]—of attempting to transform themselves into ruling party politicians without the people's endorsement through elections.

The PPD leader contended that the questions of constitutional revision and political realignment be raised in local elections, due in the first half of the year, and be concluded in accordance with the popular judgement after the elections.

He reacted harshly to the rather quick moves by the other two Kims on restructuring of the political scene and the possible merger of their parties with a view to forming an alliance of the so-called conservative and centrist forces that would leave him out in the cold.

Officials in No's Democratic Justice Party (DJP) have indicated the DJP may respond by forming its own

coalition of pan-conservative forces, which might incorporate the RDP and NDRP in a virtual merger of the three parties.

The RDP and NDRP leaders have so far pursued a reshaping in which the DJP is virtually excluded as a partner, but they might join forces with the government party to create a grand integration of conservative forces if the situation changes, analysts say.

The two have also hinted they may seek a change to the parliamentary cabinet system.

The PPD head opposes artificial changes both in the current four-party setup and the government system, apparently fearing the two Kims are trying to reduce his status and isolate him.

Branding a coalition of the DJP, RDP and NDRP "a coup-like challenge to the popular sovereignty," he warned the three parties they will face strong resistance from the public since it is political deal designed to give the ruling party a majority of National Assembly seats.

The DJP, which has 127 of the 299 assembly seats, would have a comfortable majority of two-thirds if it formed the coalition. The PPD leader said, however, he believes president No would not seek a form of realignment that could cause political instability and urged No to use his influence to block the moves for restructuring.

Realignment surfaced as the top political issue after the liquidation of remnants of former president Chon Tu-hwan's rule, which had hobbled Korean politics for two years, was prounced over with Chon's yearend testimony before the Assembly.

No party has yet clearly laid out a plan for restructuring, the process of which is closely entwined with the presidential ambitions of the party leaders, despite mounting rumors and rampant speculation.

PPD's Plan Generates Controversy

SK1601020690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Jan 90 p 2

[News analysis by staff reporter Kang Song-chol: "PPD's Bid To Send Mission to North Korea May Have Political Impact"]

[Text] Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung is using the unification issue in his efforts to turn future political developments in his favor.
His plan to send a delegation of his Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD], if realized, will have an enormous impact on domestic politics as well as on inter-Korea relations.
Party officials said Kim hopes that the party delegation's trip to Pyongyang will lead to talks with North Korean leader Kim Il-song.
The contemplated contacts with the North deserve attention, considering the fact that any such attempts by political parties have been considered taboo.
It remains in question, however, whether the PPD leader will be ale to carry out his plan.
Government officials are saying that there seem to be some gaps in understanding between President No Tae-u and Kim on the question of allowing party representatives to contact the North.
Following his Chongwadae talks with No, the PPD leader said No fully agreed to his proposal that political parties be allowed to push contacts with the North in close consultation with the government. Chongwadae officials said, however, that the President only expressed his intention to study such an idea.
It is also questionable whether other political parties will consent to the PPD's move.
Other opposition leaders, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil, have already showed negative responses to the PPD leader's contemplated plan.
They expressed skepticism, warning that any moves by the political circle to contact the orth should be handled with extreme care.
Other conservative figures also voiced concern that the PPD's contemplated visit to Pyongyang may be politically exploited by the North.
Judging from such skeptical views, Kim's plan to visit Pyongyang, if pushed hard, is expected to generate serious controversy in the political circle.
PPD officials are saying the party's contact with the North will help foster n atmosphere for improving inter-Korea relations.
They also say the party is pushing the Pyongyang visit in line with changes in the global political atmosphere as demonstrated by sweeping reforms in Eastern Europe.
Behind such oficial reasons, however, analysts see the PPD leader's overall plan regarding future domestic political developments.
One of the nation's most experienced politicians, Kim may have judged that inter-Korea relations will emerge as the most sensitive issue, replacing the question of ridding the nation of vestiges of the past authoritarian rule.
He may have thought that meeting with Kim Il-song for discussion of unification matters will enhance his political stature and influence.
Aware of the existence of adverse, public opinion, Kim has said he will exercise caution in pushing contacts with the North.
He has hinted that should he have the chance to meet Kim Il-song, he would not present his long-cherished idea of forming a confederation as an interim measure until eventual unification.
He made the remarks, noting that his idea differs somewhat from the government's official unification policy.

North Korea Permits Western Journalists' Visit

SK1801052590 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 17 Jan 90 p 1

[Report of correspondent Pak Pyong-sok from Hong Kong]

[Text] The North Korean authorities, who have not allowed foreign reporters to visit North Korea for news coverage with the exception of the case of Hong Kong reporters who visited Pyongyang recently, announced that visits to North Korea by reporters from Western countries, including the United States and Japan, in the capacity of tourists would be welcomed. Thus, the North Korean authorities showed an open-door attitude.

According to reports from Beijing, when U.S. and Japanese reporters residing in Beijing recently asked the North Korean Embassy in Beijing for entry visas to North Korea, identifying themselves as reporters, the North Korean Embassy authorities said that "visas can be issued to the reporters at any time if they visit North Korea in the capacity of tourists."

Such a change in the attitude of the North Korean side can be interpreted as a step which basically allows Western reporters, including U.S. and Japanese reporters, to carry out their news coverage activities in North Korea, and this draws, therefore, our attention.

Increased Inter-Korean Trade Needs New Routes

SK1801072690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0657 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—A sharp rise in trade between South and North Korea has sent shippers scurrying to find new indirect sea routes.

Industry sources said Thursday that South Korean traders have recently begun to use Japanese ports and a regular shipping route with China, abandoning the established routes through Hong Kong and Singapore since they are not commercially practicable.

Large shipments still travel via Hong Kong and Singapore.

In December last year, Samsung Corp., an affiliate of the Samsung Business Group, shipped five cases of wine by railroad from Shinuiju in North Korea to Dalian Port in China, where a chartered containership owned by China's Sinokor Co. loaded the North Korean wine and sailed to Pusan.

Hyosung ships goods from Chongjin and Chinnampo ports of North Korea via Japan, but has taken a loss on the route since Japanese shipowners began to ask for danger money after the seizure of a Japanese fishing vessel by the North Korean Navy years ago.

South Korean shippers are looking for new routes using national flag vessels because of the rapid expansion of inter-Korean trade, another industry source said.

He said Pusan Shipping Co., for example, expects to open a direct line in cooperation with China's Sinotrans Co., which has ships on the North Korea-Japan line, and Sinokor Co. is developing routes between South and North Korea by connecting China's railroad and its shipping services.

U.S., DPRK Meet; Discussions Termed 'Useful'

SK1901012290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0106 GMT 19 Jan 90

[By Kim Yong-pom]

[Text] Washington, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—The United States and North Korea had their seventh contact at a neutral setting in Beijing Thursday, the U.S. State Department said.

A spokesman for the State Department's East Asia and Pacific Bureau said both sides raised "substantive issues" at the contact, made at North Korea's request. The spokesman declined to go into details beyond saying the "discussion was useful."

Thursday's meeting, as in the previous six contacts, was held between political councilors from the two countries' embassies in the Chinese capital.

In light of the lapse of only 13 days since the last contact, diplomatic observers here guess that meaningful discussion may be in progress between Washington and Pyongyang, which have no diplomatic ties.

Contacts Draw 'Keen Attention'

SK1901061090 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 16 Jan 90 p 2

[Editorial: "The Expanding Contacts Between the United States and North Korea"]

[Text] The frequent diplomatic contacts the United States has recently conducted with North Korea in connection with the rapid changes now taking place all over the world and the advances made in our country's Northern policy draw our keen attention. Following a contact in Beijing on 5 January, the first since the beginning of the new year, a person in charge of a U.S. International Research Institute reportedly will make a visit to Pyongyang during February to contact North Korean authorities. The United States and North Korea reportedly have had a few rounds of contacts at the level of councilors in Beijing. The two sides are expected to develop such contacts into ones of ambassadorial level as North Korea hopes to improve relations with the United States.

Our primary concern is: Is this North Korea's new policy and does this mean that North Korea, finding the new global situation and changes in the cold war structure to be inevitable, is now trying to break away from its isolation? Our other concern is whether this is the fruition of individual efforts on the part of the United States and Japan, the Soviet Union and China, to make North Korea realize such changes and change its mind or not?

It has already been known that in the wake of the Seoul Olympics in 1988 the international political mechanism around the Korean peninsula has been moving toward "cross recognition." Nevertheless, North Korea alone

stubbornly remains with its doors tightly closed, calling it "a perpetuation of the division on the Korean peninsula." However, the Pyongyang authorities should not fail to notice that the Soviet Union has practically cross recognized Korea and that it has made cross recognition an established fact under the principle of separating politics from economics, even though Pyongyang refuses to accept the notion of breaking away from the cold war structure.

Before and even after it paved the way for establishing consular ties with Korea, the Soviet Union has made it clear that it is not against Korea's admission into the United Nations. This is natural in that cross exchanges are inevitably preconditioned on cross recognition. This being the case, we welcome the effort of the United States, one of the interested parties to the Korean peninsula, to promote exchanges with North Korea and to break the shell North Korea has built around itself.

North Korea should realize that it has no justification to cling to its isolationist policy and that it has nothing to gain from such a policy. In his New Year address, Kim Il-song said North Korea needs cooperation from the United States to break down the "wall" for "free travel" between the North and South. However, he did not mention the "Team Spirit" which he has been denouncing for years. He should realize that there is no such thing as a wall on the Korean peninsula, which he referred to as "something to get rid of." The only thing that exists on the Korean peninsula is a demilitarized zone along the truce line whose objective is to keep any tragic calamities such as the fratricidal war North Korea triggered 40 years ago from recurring. North Korea has deployed most of its combat forces in forward areas along the truce line. Therefore, it is its duty to break down the barriers.

Both Korea and the United States have already announced a plan to scale down the size of the "Team Spirit." In addition, they have invited North Korea to come to observe the exercise. Once again, it is North Korea that should break down the barriers between the North and South.

Despite the frequent contacts between the United States and North Korea, it will be a taxing endeavor to try to let the wind of opening and reform into North Korea right away. Given its self-respect, the Kim Il-song regime will no doubt consider any sudden opening and reform the seed of a crisis that will rock its system and regime to the core. So, we and the neighboring countries of the Korean peninsula should not stop prodding North Korea and its authorities into opening, without making it feel a sense of crisis as such. In the belief that the contacts between the United States and North Korea will serve as an important opportunity to settle issues, we will keep watching the contacts.

U.S. Trade Pressure, Demands Expected To Ease

SK1801013890 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Jan 90 p 6

[Text] The United States' trade pressure on Korea is expected to intensify this year because of U.S. Congressional elections slated for November, unless its trade deficit is sharply reduced, the Economic Planning Board [EPB] said yesterday.

The U.S. Government understands the recent economic difficulties of Korea, created by sluggish exports, high inflation and the won's rapid appreciation against the U.S. dollar, the nation's chief economic planning agency said in a report issued yesterday.

But, the board warned that if Korea attempts to use its recent economic trouble as an excuse to delay its scheduled market-opening program, it will touch off serious trade friction with the United States.

The report was released at a special meeting of key cabinet members related to trade with the United States yesterday.

Participants included ministers of foreign affairs, finance, trade and industry, health and social affairs, communications, science and technology and agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

Reviewing Korea-U.S. trade relations last year, the EPB report said the relationship between the two countries is the best in years largely because of the sharp cut in Korea's trade surplus with the United States.

In 1988, the report said, Korea's trade surplus with the United States dropped 44 percent on the CIF [Cost Insurance, and Freight] basis and 29.6 percent on the FOB [Free on Board] basis.

During the corresponding period, it said,the U.S.'s trade deficit with Taiwan increased 9.4 percent and that with Japan inched up just 0.4 percent.

But the report said there is a slight yet significant difference between Korea should cope with its current economic trouble.

Washington takes the view, the report said, that continued bold market opening is the best way for Korea to fundamentally overcome its economic difficulty.

Contrary to this, it said, Korea insists on balancing its market opening schedule with international competitiveness of its domestic industries.

The EPB report said that if Korea's trade surplus with the United States continues to fall rapidly, the latter is expected to restrain its demands that Korea further open its markets.

The day's meeting, presided over by Deputy Prime Minister and EPB Minister Cho Sun, was to review the Korea-U.S. trade relations last year and discuss steps to counter expected U.S. trade pressure this year.

Also present at the meeting was Mun Hui-kap, President No Tae-u's senior secretary for economic affairs.

The EPB report said that U.S. trade retaliation against Korea will be based on how faithfully Korea complies with the agreement already made with the United States and how sincerely it responds to U.S. proposals in coming trade negotiations, including talks on opening Korea's beef and communication markets.

The U.S. judgment on Korea's performance in compliance with the trade agreements will given when Washington renews its designation of Priority Foreign Country status in trade negotiations in April, the EPB report said.

The nation's top economic planning agency also noted in the report that Korea should readdress its system to decide the exchange rate of the won against other major foreign currencies to fend off U.S. trade pressure.

Washington also claimed on three occassions since October 1988 that Korea has manipulated its foreign currency exchange rate to boost the competitiveness of its export goods.

Finance officials of the two countries are to hold a regular meeting in February to discuss the matter.

The report said that Washington has strongly warned Korea against "artificially" devaluing the won to cope with recent sluggish exports.

As a counterstep, the report said, Korea plans to introduce a new exchange rate system under which the won's exchange convertibility rate will be determined primarily by market forces, not by the government's interference.

Political Parties Said To Consider Realignment

SK1901023190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Enormous changes are looming in the political circle as moves for political realignment rapidly gain momentum.

Attention is focused on negotiations said to be going on among the ruling Democratic Justice Party [DJP] and two opposition parties, the Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] and the New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP].

The DJP has yet to announce its official position, but seems increasingly desirous of forming a "grand alliance of conservative forces."

Opposition leaders Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil are accelerating their moves to bring about changes in the present four-party system.

Indications are that they will disband their parties, the RDP and the NDRP, to push for a new party.

Both the ruling party and the two opposition parties are calling for an alliance of conservative forces, but it remains in question whether they will be able to join hands.

In the meantime, the largest opposition party, the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] led by Kim Tae-chung, strongly opposes the moves to reshape the political parties.

The PPD asserts that political realignment, if any, should come after the local council elections originally slated for the first half of this year.

Following are the positions of the four parties:

*DJP: The ruling party has long studied various possibilities of forming an alliance with some of the opposition parties as part of efforts to overcome its weakness as a minority in the National Assembly.

The party is said to have once considered pushing for an alliance with the PPD, the No. 1 opposition party. Such an option seems impracticable, however, considering many party lawmakers are showing an allergic response to the idea of joining hands with the PPD.

An increasing number of party lawmakers appear to favor forming an alliance of conservative forces, which they say should incorporate the RDP, the NDRP and some figures from the PPD.

They also think that the political realignment would naturally lead to the discussion of a constitutional amendment to adopt a parliamentary system of government.

In case a grand alliance is realized with opposition parties, the ruling party would not insist on retaining its vested interests, the lawmakers say.

*PPD: PPD leaders are trying to feign composure, describing other parties' moves toward alliance as an attempt to "mix blood of different types."

There is no denying, however, that they are extremely concerned about repercussions from a possible political merger.

They accuse the three other parties of attempting to isolate the PPD, warning that the party's isolation would make it more difficult to resolve the problem of regional rivalry.

Senior party officials said the party has warned the ruling camp against such ill effects on numerous occasions.

They expressed their opposition to political realignment pushed in an "artificial way," arguing that any restructuring should come after the coming local elections.

Meantime, the party leadership is also confronting a challenge from a group of young lawmakers who are demanding a merger between the PPD and the RDP.

*RDP: Party leader Kim Yong-sam plans to announce his plan by the end of this month and start work in earnest on realigning the political parties next month, according to his close aides.

His announcement of plans to inaugurate a new party may come shortly after his meeting with NDRP President Kim Chong-pil slated for next week.

Kim appears to think that the new party should incorporate the RDP and the NDRP, plus some figures form the DJP and the PPD.

In addition to strengthening cooperation with the NDRP's Kim Chong-pil, the RDP leader is also contacting the ruling party through his aides.

*NDRP: Most party lawmakers seem to accept party leader Kim Chong-pil's position on seeking political relignment.

Kim had long maintained a cautious attitude, but recently he began to call for an early settlement of the issue of reshaping the political parties.

He now agrees with RDP leader Kim Yong-sam's suggestion that the realignment should be made before the coming local elections.

After the realignment issue is settled, Kim is expected to strongly push his long-cherished idea of replacing the current presidential system with a parliamentary cabinet system.

RDP's Kim Plans to Finish Restructuring by Jun

SK1801023690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0228 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Yong-sam predicted Thursday his new design for South Korea's political restructuring will be completed before local elections that are due to take place by the end of June.

"I will disclose my concrete plans regarding political restructuring later this month and will put them into motion from February, step by step, so the new system can be realized prior to the local elections," Kim said in an interview with YONHAP News Agency.

The head of the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) hinted he would consider discussing a constitutional amendment to replace the current presidential government system with a parliamentary system in the process of realignment.

"My philosophical preference is for the presidential system, but the matter could be discussed since all political groups and politicians will have to abandon their vested interests in the course of the reshaping," Kim said.

His willingness to discuss constitutional revision is worthy of note because Kim Chong-pil, head of the minority New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP) with which the RDP is cooperating closely on realignment, insists on the parliamentary system.

Kim said he and the NDRP leader will meet Jan. 23 or 24 to discuss their progress in restructuring the political system. He said his ultimate aim is to create two parties—one moderate conservative and one reformist—out of the current four regionally based groups.

Touching on the character of the new party on his drawing board, Kim said, "It will embrace those who support civilian government and will recruit young elites from all walks of life, but it will not shut its doors to politicians for their past acts."

The head of Korea's second largest opposition party said he is not considering a simple merger with another party, not even the much talked about marriage with the NDRP, suggesting he envisions creating a new party embracing a broader spectrum of politicians than comprise the RDP and NDRP.

Kim Tae-chung, head of the largest party, rejects the idea of reshaping on the ground that there is no reformist party to partake in the two-party system that Kim Yong-sam has dreamed up.

Kim Yong-sam, arch rival of Kim Tae-chung, said, "There are reformist lawmakers, although I do not name them specifically, and the word 'conservative' as I use it is related to 'liberal democracy'."

Kim To Create New Party

SK1901093190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0849 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 19 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Yong-sam said Friday he intends to create a new party of "pan-democratic forces," possibly incorporating the ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP), to meet the "new thinking" of the 1990s.

A new party is needed to end the confrontation between the existing parties and complete democratization "with democratic forces taking the initiative," according to a statement released by Kim's chief spokesman to explain moves by Kim, the head of the Reunfication Democratic Party (RDP), and Kim Chong-pil, the head of the New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP), to reshape South Korea's political structure.

"It is inevitable to reshape the current four-party system and embrace pan-democratic forces in a new party to ensure political, economic and social stability in the 1990s," the statement said.

Kim's new party will exclude extremists both from the right and the left but will embrace all political groups, new elites, democratic and centrist forces, journalists, academics and clergymen, the statement said.

Kang Sam-chae, the spokesman, said "all political groups" specifically included the DJP and the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) headed by archrival Kim Tae-chung, an indication that the RDP leader and the NDRP leader may seek to merge their parties and the DJP as well as stealing members from the PPD.

Kim said he is confident his political restructuring will fulfill the people's "new thinking."

Taking a shot at the PPD leader, who is resisting Kim's call for realignment, the statement said, "the tide inside and outside the nation is shifting. We are entering an era of new thinking and the people want changes at the beginning of the 1990s, but some politicians these days are refusing to break from their old thinking."

Kang earlier said Kim will meet Kim Chong-pil next Wednesday to put final touches to his plans to form a new party made up of all democratic conservative forces.

The RDP and NDRP leaders explain that the political restructuring is necessary for national stability and coping with possible changes in inter-Korean relations and international situations.

The two also hint they may seek to change the presidential system to a parliamentary cabinet system. Their scheme is reportedly to first merge their two parties and embrace conservative and centrist forces to form a new opposition group and then join forces with the DJP to create a grand coalition of conservative forces, a virtual new party modeled after Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Some predictions have it that the two Kims will directly merge their parties and the DJP without going through the intermediate steps. The grand coalition, if realized, would be a revolutionary change in Korean politics, stained with successive dictatorships as well as strife over partisan interests.

The DJP, headed by President No Tae-u, is responding positively to the moves, but contends that any realignment must be carried out under its initiative. The DJP said it wants to absorb the "pan-conservative" forces, the same goal as the two Kims, hinting that it may be dissolved or renamed and that No may even leave the party to eliminate obstacles to forming a new party and give a fair opportunity to other political parties or forces.

Such proposals by the DJP, a basic change in its concept of party politics, were first aired late last month by then DJP chairman Pak Chun-kyu. Pak was soon dismissed from the party leadership for his outspokenness but he refused to retract his remarks. He is now reportedly acting as a go-between for the ruling and two opposition parties in arranging the marriage.

Top opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, however, urged his rival parties to end discussions on restructuring and revision of the Constitution to adopt the cabinet system.

The PPD leader, who analysts say fears the new setup would reduce his status and isolate him, even threatened to launch a nationwide struggle to frustrate their moves, which he denounced as a "coup-like challenge" to popular sovereignty.

His stubborn resistance may invite a confrontation, even though the others have vowed to refrain from political strife or the pursuit of partisan interests, analysts say.

New Party To Be Announced 30 Jan

SK1701101490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0747 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 18 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Yong-sam, his plans reportedly already far advanced in secret, will officially declare the formation of a new party on Jan. 30 and will set up a preparatory committee by the end of February.

Rep. Kang Sam-chae, spokesman for Kim's Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), said Thursday the task of gathering the legally required number of signatures to create a new party will begin in February across the nation and among people of all walks of life, including politicians belonging to the three other parties.

Kim will meet with Kim Chong-pil, head of the New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP), on Jan. 24 to discuss the new party, Kang said.

"The new party on the drawing board will have a moderate, middle-of-the-road, pan-democratic character and stand for nationalism and democracy," said a party insider, speaking off the record. "The recruitment of persons outside the RDP has made substantial progress already."

The source said the new party has the tentative backing of the NDRP and ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) heads as a result of President No Tae-u's recent talks with opposition leaders.

Top opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, in a news conference earlier in the day, denounced plans to reshape the political system into a two-party structure as a betrayal of the will of the people as expressed through the ballot box in the general election.

Kim Chong-pil, Kim Yong-sam See 'Eye to Eye'

SK1601023690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0223 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 16 (YONHAP)—Kim Chong-pil, declaring he and fellow opposition leader Kim Yong-sam see eye to eye on the need to change the South Korean political environment, said Tuesday his minor opposition New Republican Democratic Party [NDRP] will cooperate with the reunification democratic party in promoting realignment of politics.

"The idea of Kim Yong-sam to create a new party that groups all the conservative forces and my concept of realignment into conservative and progressive parties are the same in content although the expressions are different," Kim said in an interview with YONHAP News Agency.

The two Kims have repeatedly said the current four-party system has substantial problems and should be changed.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party is sitting on the sidelines although it recognizes the need for realignment, while the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy led by Kim Tae-chung is against the move.

Kim Chong-pil said the sooner there is realignment the better, but that now is not the time to reveal his timetable. Asked about a possible delay in holding local elections, Kim said he was not considering a postponement as the four parties have agreed to hold them during the first half of this year. Political realignment will be considered in parallel with the local elections, he said.

On cooperation with other parties in putting up candidates to run in the local elections, Kim said he would make a decision after the extraordinary National Assembly session next month.

The NDRP leader said work on realignment is under way and that the shape of the new system shall be made public later. He declined to say when. He said he is ready to be a go-between in setting up a conservative-progressive system, calling it his life-long task.

On changing the constitution to adopt a cabinet government system, the minor party leader said, "I do not insist on an immediate change of the current presidential system to a cabinet system. My suggestion is to decide which would be better, the present system or the cabinet government system adopted in most advanced countries, after discussing it with the people."

NDRP's Kim Role in New Party in Question

SK1801020690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 18 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] A ranking Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] official yesterday suggested that Kim Chong-pil, leader of the conservative opposition New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP], be excluded from a projected political realignment, running counter to RDP leader Kim Yong-sam's idea of an RDP-NDRP merger.

RDP floor leader Yi Ki-taek, proposing a new conservative political party led by democratic forces, said "key figures who served in the past dictatorial regimes should be excluded."

Addressing a seminar, Yi, a six-term lawmaker, suggested a three-stage political reshaping: First, democratic conservative forces should be united and be "morally reborn." Second, they will develop a leadership for the union of democratic forces, and, in the end, a stable conservative progressive framework will be established.

He divided the nation's conservative forces into two; one being the "democratic conservatives' who have joined the democratization movement, and the other the "authoritarian conservatives who have served for dictatorial regimes," virtually categorizing Kim Chong-pil and the NDRP as belonging in the latter category.

Kim served as prime minister and chairman of the the ruling Democratic Republican Party under Pak Chong-hui's rule.

But when asked whether he insists on excluding Kim Chong-pil from a political reshaping, Yi said, "I think (he) can also join the union movement if he can peel off his past skin."

His speech seemed to represent in part the idea of scores of young opposition lawmakers who are pushing for a union between the RDP and the leading opposition party for Peace and Democracy and are opposing Kim Yong-sam's move for a merger between the RDP and the NDRP.

RDP leader Kim has suggested forming a new conservative political party which would break up the existing four-party system without regard to "democratic or undemocratic forces."

PPD's Kim Tae-chung Opposed to Cabinet System

SK1601014690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] PPD [Party for Peace and Democracy] President Kim Tae-chung reiterated yesterday his opposition to the proposed introduction of a cabinet government system and to any attempt to alter the present political structure.

Kim made his objection to a cabinet-centered government more clear than ever by declaring that his party will use a presidential government system as a campaign platform in the 1992 general elections.

He also denounced the realignment move by the RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] and NDRP [New Democratic Republican party] as a bid designed to "isolate" the PPD.

Commenting on the proposal to switch to a cabinet system, Kim counterproposed that any party in favor of it should put this idea to the test of popular judgment.

"If the party wins the elections with the slogan of a cabinet government system, it can revise the Constitution and adopt it," Kim said.

"But the PPD will face the elections with a proposal for a revised presidential system characterized by the selection of a vice president.

"We will also propose to alter the present presidential election method to adopt a run-off vote in case all candidates fail to obtain more than half of the total votes," Kim said.

By enunciating his preference for a presidential government format, Kim strongly indicated that he intends to run in the next presidential election. He also seemed to believe that the introduction of a run-off voting method enhances his chances of winning.

The PPD president also argued that the current debate on political restructuring might cause lawmakers to neglect the scheduled February extraordinary parliamentary session as well as hinder an early implementation of the local autonomy system.

"In this context, political restructuring should be carried out after, not before, the scheduled local assembly elections and in accordance with the popular judgment expressed in the elections," Kim argued.

The PPD president denounced the call for political realignment simply as a bid to isolate his party. This criticism might be valid at the level of self-defense but does not sound persuasive as the logic of an opposition leader committed to democratization and new politics.

President No Calls for Stronger Export Economy

SK1901022790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u yesterday called upon export-related officials "to put their heart and soul" into an export drive as they did in the 1960s and 1970s.

"You have a tremendous mission to inject fresh vigor into slumping business sectors so that we stage another leap forward for economic development," No said.

No made the points after receiving a briefing on Korea's export performance in recent months during his observation tour of the Korea Exposition Center (KOEX) south of the Han River.

Minister of Trade and Industry Han Sung-su said in his report to President No that the overall economic climate both at home and abroad is not favorable for Korean exporters.

Citing appreciation of the won against the U.S. dollar, unstable prices of strategic raw materials and a worldwide inflationary spiral as being among the negative factors hindering Korea's export performance, Han said that labor-management disputes further plagued Korea's trading houses.

No said that these and other difficulties could be somehow overcome if export-related government officials and businessmen recover the "enthusiasm and workaholic spirit" that propeled Korea's phenomenal economic growth in the 1960s and 1970s led by export industries.

"In this vein, let me stress once again that technical innovation and productivity increases are key to our success," said No, stressing the importance of "industrial peace.

He also deplored Korea's failure to successful restructure its industries, attain a technical edge over rival countries and increase productivity when the nation enjoyed a booming business climate over the past three years against the backdrop of what he described as the "three lows,"—low interest rates, low exchange rates and low international raw material prices.

* Labor, Finance Ministries Disagree on Taxes

* Ministries' Positions

902C0044 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 27 Oct 89 p 1

[Text] Facing the problem of handling the collection of excess tax on earned income, the Ministry of Finance, the office in charge, made clear that they are not considering the refund and the reduction measure at all, but the Ministry of Labor insists that an immediate tax exemption limit and tax rate readjustments for taxes on earned income are necessary, and so, there appear to be seriously opposing opinions within the government.

The Ministry of Labor sent a letter of request on 26 October concerning raising the deduction on earned income and the tax exemption limit by changing the income tax law in order to relieve the tax burden even a little bit on salarymen, insofar as excess taxes on earned income are being collected.

The Ministry of Labor noted in this letter of request that "following the average 18 percent wage increase for income earners this year, it appears that there is a phenomenon, that the amount of tax collected on earned income by the end of July increased 10 percent over last year in spite of an extensive tax rate reduction last year and so, because both labor and management are discontented with the increased portion of wages being absorbed by taxes, readjustment of the tax exemption limit and tax rate is inevitable."

The Ministry of Labor also said that "it would be proper that the earned income exemption be allowed to creep up to the minimum wage level (in the case of 1990 to the 1,987,200 won level), settled annually by the minimum wage law, instead of the present annual minimum line of 1.4 million won per person.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Finance clarified that "the insistence on a tax refund on earned income and a tax reduction presented recently by the economic organizations, etc., is wrong," and "the issue of a reduction of the tax on earned income will be considered at the time of the second tax system reorganization scheduled for next year."

* Causes Analyzed

902C0044 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 27 Oct 89 p 3

[Text] The earned income tax dispute created by the collection of excess tax is finally developing into a clash of opinion between the government ministries.

The dispute on the collection of excess tax on earned income was stirred by a position taken against the government in the report last month by some mass media and private organizations, which the Korea Management Association has been spreading with continued support of the economic and labor associations like the Korea Trade Association, and the Korea Labor Association. This dispute has become much more heated since the Ministry of Labor expressed a position of support on this issue.

The position of the economic labor associations including the Ministry of Labor is that "since the tax on earned income is excessive, will the authorities in charge please find a way to solve the problem."

While the professional classes like doctors, lawyers, and businessmen pay extremely low taxes compared to their actual income, the wage earning class like salarymen who live from paycheck to paycheck plead "what on earth is happening because even the increase in our wages, which

was achieved raised with difficulty, is being reduced, bit by bit, by the excess taxes on earned income."

Their position is persuasive even when using the figures presented by the government authorities.

According to recent figures which analyzed the increased tax burden, followed by the wage increase based on the National Tax Administration's tables of tax on earned income, it shows that working people who get paid 500,000 won per month pay 1,160 won in tax, but when paid 575,000 won per month, representing a 15 percent wage increase, they pay 4,910 won in tax, the tax burden increasing as much as 4.2 times.

Moreover, the more wages are increased, the more tax is collected and the lower one's income is, which shows that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

The employers also express discontent with this collection of excess tax on earned income.

In spite of the slump in exports, the labor and management dispute, difficult business circumstances, etc., which have been serious problems this year, because the wage increase for employees is mostly absorbed by tax, its effect is reduced by half. Ultimately, the collection of excess tax on earned income causes another vicious cycle of wage increases, and results in a worsening of business conditions. Thus, the Ministry of Labor insists on a reduction of tax on earned income to prevent labor-management disputes, which are anticipated to be aggravated next year as well, and to support employers and employees indirectly.

Academic experts also generally expressed the same opinion about the problem of excess collection of taxes on earned income.

But only the Ministry of Finance, the office in charge of the tax system, is turning away from this.

Although the Ministry of Finance admits that the tax estimation is done incorrectly, it doesn't retreat even one inch from its position that the collection of excess tax isn't wrong.

This means that they admit that they collected more tax than appropriated in the budget because of the incorrect tax estimation, but the collection of excess tax itself is not wrong and accordingly they are not willing to revise, and indeed can't revise tax policy.

Also, if the portion of excess tax collected is included, because the amount of tax on earned income collected this year does not differ much from the annual result of last year's tax collection, it is their attitude that there wouldn't be any special problem.

But such logic is very unreasonable.

That's because the actual amount of tax on earned income collected last year, upon which the Ministry of Finance based its reasoning, was more than 40 percent in excess of the initial budget.

Accordingly, insisting that there was not that much excess tax collected this year compared to the actual results of last year's tax collection, which was already in excess, is like admitting to themselves that they are collecting excess tax this year.

Moreover, the government authorities, by increasing the tax exemption limit and by reducing the tax rate last year, has predicted that this year's tax on earned income will be about 600 billion won less than last year. Nevertheless, since excess tax was collected, it appears that the authority's tax collection estimation is absurd and irresponsible. This means that if tax is estimated and collected in this way, it is not necessary to enact a law defining tax brackets and tax rates, and also the National Assembly's function in deliberating the budget is unnecessary.

The National Assembly's budget deliberation results in nothing but a silly numbers play.

The Ministry of Finance, when the collection of excess tax on earned income started to create a dispute, clarified on 25 October that they will start to reduce the tax burden on salarymen through the tax reorganization process which will be executed next year.

But economic and labor organizations and salarymen, etc., who point out the excessive burden of tax on earned income require them to present a way to solve the problem right now, not next year or the year after.

They say if the government understands the worker's situation and feelings even a little bit, then a tax refund or reduction through special legislation would not be that difficult.

The reason that the Ministry of Labor requested the cooperation of the Ministry of Finance to take measures to reduce the tax burden on workers quickly is that they are acutely conscious of such feelings among the workers.

The Ministry of Finance, not showing any responsibility, or even appearing to be very sorry for the mistake, but showing an attitude which seems like a frontal attack on public opinion, within and outside government, which is demanding the reduction of tax on earned income, is behaving immaturely.

It is the general opinion of the public that the error in the tax collection estimate will not be believed by people with common sense, and if a few hundred billion won of excess tax is collected for one tax item, isn't an ex post facto correction reasonable for the government?

The problem of excessive collection of tax on earned income was caused by a mistake in the government authorities' basic tax collection estimate, and such a mistake is not limited only to this year. The government,

due to such mistakes in tax collection estimates in the past, has been collecting 10-50 percent more tax on earned income every year than had been planned. Also, in spite of such an excessive tax burden, workers and salarymen have kept silent at the production sites.

But public opinion has grown that now is the time for the government authorities to admit their policy mistake, and correct it using whatever means necessary to recompense the workers.

* Ministries Present Plans for S&T Development

902C0041A Seoul KUGMIN ILBO in Korean
19 Oct 89 p 10

[Article by Chon Hang-su: "Grasp the Leading Edge in the National Development Factors"]

[Text] "Basic Plan for the Technological Development" versus "5-Year Plan for the Industrial Development"

Should it be the "Newest Technology" or the "Newest Industry"? In order for our country to raise herself to the level of a highly industrialized and prosperous nation, it is essential that the newest technologies and industries should be developed and advanced. The Ministry of S&T [Science and Technology and the Ministry of Trade and Industry each came up with independent plans for the development of the newest technologies and for the advancement of the newest industries, thus appearing to confront each other in the role for leadership. Last August, the Ministry of S&T formulated the "Basic Plan for the Development of the Newest Technologies" and submitted the plan to the "Committee for the Development of the Newest Technology and Industry" which has the deputy prime minister as its chairman. On the other hand, the Ministry of Trade and Industry independently revised and announced the "5-Year Plan for the Industrial Development of the Newest Technology" on 12 October.

The Ministry of S&T's plan states that it will spend 3.2 trillion won in the next 7 years (1990-96) for the development of: communication industry, mechatronics, advanced materials science, life science, fine chemicals, process engineering, new sources of energy, transportation technology in the air/space and ocean for the 21st century, advanced medical science, environmental science, and particle physics, etc. This plan proposes that the government and the private sectors should cooperate in making an all-out national effort to bring about the development of these challenging but important and necessary fields for the benefit of the public.

In particular, their short-term goal is to set up the "Research Areas for Advanced Science and Industry," to be developed in stages, around Kwangju, Kangnung, Pusan, Taegu, and Chonju. The newest technologies, think-tanks, industries, educational institutions, and cultural facilities will be concentrated in these areas. In the long run, these new research areas will comprise the "New Techno-Belt" and will be linked to each other by a network of communication and transportation.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Trade and Industry's "5-Year Development Plan" begins next year and will continue till the year 1994. The ministry chooses the following seven fields to be the leaders in the nation's future industries: advanced materials science, fine chemicals, bioengineering, microelectronics, mechatronics, laser/optics, and aircraft. And the ministry will support and aid in the financing of the land procurement and the technological development in these fields.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry will spend the total sum of 26 trillion won in the next 5 years for this purpose, 11 trillion won for the technology development and 15 trillion won for the construction of the facilities. Of the 11 trillion won for the technology development, the government will be responsible for 3.9 trillion won (35 percent) and the ministry has decided to set aside 2.2 trillion won as its initial fund.

Furthermore, for the development of the newest industries, the Ministry of Trade and Industry plans to secure a total of 4.5 million pyong of the land around the following seven cities: Taegu, Kwangju, Taejon, Chunchon, Chongju, Chinju, and Chonju.

The two ministries' projects are similar in that their principle objective is that the development of these newest technologies and their applications in industry are essential for the nation to compete in the international markets and that they must promote these technologies in preparation for the 21st century. However, in the detailed analysis, the areas of the development planned and the strategies for the developments are quite different between the two ministries.

The Ministry of S&T's primary goal is to develop and promote the latest technologies for the industry and for the welfare of the public, whereas the Ministry of Trade and Industry's project focuses only on the newest industrial technologies which will narrow the technological gap between our country and the developed countries. Also the Ministry of Trade and Industry aims to attain the newest industrial technologies through the support of other existing industries.

Not only are the titles and the projected durations of the two plans different, but also the details of the projects indicate that their target areas are basically different from each other. The Ministry of S&T plans, in spite of the urgency, to focus on the latest research and technology which private industries cannot handle by themselves. On the other hand, the Ministry of Trade and Industry plans to concentrate on the development of the most advanced industrial technologies which will have the greatest influence on the related fields.

The Ministry of S&T does not intend to set up a special fund for its project but will rely mostly on the "sponsoring system" composed of the government's defense budget and the private industries subsidized by the

government. The Ministry of Trade and Industry, on the other hand, proposes to set up a special "development fund for the newest technologies" to aid the industries.

Also the two ministries have different proposals for training the necessary manpower for the projects. The Ministry of S&T wants to educate the people through the special education program for the scientifically gifted as well as through the various national institutions for science/technology and the colleges of science/engineering. On the other hand, the Ministry of Trade and Industry proposes job-training programs in the work places, spearheaded by the industry research teams. In the matter of location too, the two ministries have conflicting ideas. The Ministry of S&T's idea of establishing the so-called "Techno-Belt" composed of the cities which are connected by the network of advanced technologies (communication and transportation) is different from the Ministry of Trade and Industry's idea of selecting some cities to form the latest industrial complexes.

These independent and differing views by the two ministries on the subjects of the nation's newest industrial and technological ventures present the potential danger of an industrial overlap and unfair policymaking, and they may eventually harm the nation's economic growth and distort her industrial development.

This special support for the newest industrial development can provoke a misunderstanding of unfair and preferential treatment, such as favoring the large conglomerates. Moreover, a direct involvement by the government may be seen as the government's effort to promote the export industry, provoking opposition from countries which are trading partners.

In case the government offers special tax benefits and financial aid to the industrial conglomerates which invest in the development of the latest technologies, the nation's economic power will become concentrated in these fields. Also if the powerful industrialists scramble to get into the act, there is a possible danger of excess concentration on certain areas of the industry. Then one cannot rule out a similar disaster such as the heavy chemical industry encountered in the past.

The experts on this matter believe that the government should learn from the experiences of the developed countries and support the basic research and the development of those advanced industries which are economically viable. They also believe that the government should give more support to the industries which are potentially beneficial to the public welfare.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry's idea of setting up a special fund to promote investment runs counter to the government's "anti-fund policy" to encourage openness and self-regulation among the industries. Also the goal of this "special fund" seems to overlap with some of the existing funds for the nation's technology development, such as the "Industrial Development Fund" and the "Mid/Small Size Industry Fund."

Due to the nature of the advanced industrial technology, some people believe that one cannot expect any fruitful result from the aid for 5 to 7 years. Also some people say that the relationship between these projects and the government's periodic "5-Year Plan for the Social and Economic Development of the Nation" must be clarified. In any event, the Ministry of S&T's "Basic Plan for the Development of the Advanced Technology" and the Ministry of Trade and Industry's "5-Year Plan for the Development of the Advanced Industry" will be reviewed by the Ministry of Economic Planning Board and a compromised plan will be adopted.

The ministries must effectively share the responsibilities in the development of the advanced technologies and industries so that there will be no overlap of the support structure. It must also be stressed that they should avoid the shortsightedness of grasping what is presently the leading edge of technology, but instead work for the development of the advanced technologies and industries for the long-term benefit of the nation's future and the welfare of the people.

Burma

SLORC Committee Holds 74th News Conference

BK1901084990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Excerpts] The Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] held its 74th news conference with local and foreign journalists at 1300 today in the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense. [passage omitted]

At the news conference the Information Committee explained matters relating to Soe Myat Thu, joint secretary of the supply committee of the ABSDF [All Burma Students' Democratic Front], who was arrested in the compound of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence; reports contained in the BANGKOK POST; current distribution of pamphlets aimed at creating disturbances; and persons to be investigated who were mentioned in a 9 January 1990 speech of General Saw Maung. [passage omitted]

The Information Committee explained that following the collection of concrete evidence, Soe Myat Thu—secretary of the supply committee of the ABSDF, who was captured in the compound of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence—has been tried according to law. He was brought to trial only after irrefutable evidence had been collected against him, because those who are tried for criminal offense are entitled to the benefit of the doubt.

In connection with the case, the information committee explained that the 14 January issue of the BANGKOK POST carried a report on a statement issued by the KIA [Kachin Independence Army] in which the KIA insurgents express support for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as a candidate in the elections. In the statement, the KIA insurgent leaders expressed their full support if Daw Aung San Suu Kyi runs in the 27 May general elections and condemned two Kachin nationals, Labang Grawng and Dingra Tan, for objecting to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's candidacy on the grounds that she married a British national, Michael Aris. They expressed their regret at collusion between Labang Grawng, Dingra Tan, and the SLORC, and strongly denounced divide-and-rule policies.

Similarly, the 16 January issue of the BANGKOK POST carried a report on secret contacts between insurgents and candidates contesting in the elections. According to the report, Myanma [Burmese] students said on 15 January 1990 that Myanma dissidents and most of the ethnic armed resistance groups operating inside Myanma have secretly established contact with political parties preparing to contest the general elections on 27 May.

A student leader, Ko Kyaw Min, said recent reports from Yangon [Rangoon] indicated a total of 1,939 candidates from 94 registered political parties and 63 independent candidates have registered with the election commission to contest the polls. Many of these 2,000 candidates have contact with rebel groups and student dissidents, he said. He declined to reveal their identities for safety reasons.

To act according to law is to be fair. The Information Committee asked whether it is fair for the KIA insurgents and other insurgents to be expressing support for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's candidacy in the elections. The SLORC will hold free and fair elections. The reports contained in the BANGKOK POST claim there are secret contacts between the insurgents and political parties. According to them, the political parties would thus be breaking the law. Therefore, it is necessary for the political parties to follow the set rules, regulations, and laws. The political parties should take precautions to ensure their deeds and words remain within the framework of the law and refrain from thoughtless acts and words. When action is taken against them according to the law for breaking the law, they should not hurl accusations at the SLORC. They should look back and see why the SLORC came into existence and what tasks are being carried out by the SLORC. Everybody knows whether it is engaged in constructive or destructive work.

Since it took over the state power, it has declared that it would hold elections and the election schedule has been set. Work is being done according to schedule. Currently, it is the time to scrutinize the candidature list. A total of 2,392 candidates from 100 parties have submitted their candidacy lists. Work will be done according to the schedule until the elections are held successfully. This has been made clear repeatedly by both the chairman and the secretary-1 of the SLORC. Therefore, we have done our duty. In carrying out our duty, we will not tolerate any influence or activity that would undermine the holding of the elections. We do not pay the slightest attention to the spread of fabricated reports, obstruction, and instigation from within and without the country. We will hold the elections successfully as we had pledged.

People should look back and see what kind of government the SLORC has been. They should take note that it is a military government in charge of establishing law and order and peace and tranquillity in the country.

The Information Committee explained the distribution of pamphlets aimed at creating disturbances. It has been learned that an embassy in Yangon has been distributing pamphlets to create disturbances—a pamphlet dated 20 July 1989, a press release dated 21 July, and editorials dated 23 and 26 July. There are four pamphlets in total. We can guess which embassy has been distributing these pamphlets. These pamphlets are: press release entitled U.S. Distressed Over Arrest of Myanma Nationals; press release dated 21 July and entitled U.S. Denounced Repression in Myanma; VOA editorial of 23 July entitled Stop Suppression in Myanma; VOA editorial of 26 July entitled Political Events in Myanma (?Are Not Accusations).

It has been learned that some political parties have translated and distributed these press releases. These acts, which could incite disturbances, should not be

carried out. Therefore, distribution of pamphlets with intent to incite disturbances should be stopped.

The Information Committee went on to explain an investigation into leaders of demonstrations in front of the Myanma Embassy in the United States on [Burmese] Independence Day [4 January], which was reported by the VOA on 5 January 1990 and which was mentioned in a speech by Gen Saw Maung on 9 January 1990. Those who led the demonstrations on that day were Bo Bo Kyaw Nyein, U Thaung Khin, Harry Tun alias Tin Tun Aung, and U Kyee Han alias Kin Hong Shi. [passage omitted]

Therefore, those who demonstrated in front of the Myanma Embassy on Independence Day were no longer Myanma citizens, but rather are now U.S. citizens. [passage omitted]

The news conference ended at 1400.

SLORC, Election Commission Hold Discussions

BK1901075890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and commander in chief of the Defense Services, and members of the SLORC, met with U Ba Htay, chairman of the Multiparty Democratic General Elections Commission, and members of the elections commission. This meeting was held this morning at 0900 at the Dagon Mansion of the Ministry of Defense.

The meeting was held to coordinate work on successfully holding a free and fair multiparty democratic general election, and to discuss programs for granting permission for public gatherings and campaigning to parties that have registered to run in the elections.

The meeting was also attended by Lieutenant General Than Shwe, Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin, Major General Tin Tun, Major General Aung Ye Kyaw, Major General Phone Myint, Major General Sein Aung, Brigadier General Myo Nyunt, Secretary-1 Brig Gen Khin Nyunt, Secretary-2 Brig Gen Tin U, Attorney General U Tha Tun, and members of the elections commission U Saw Kyar Doe, U San Maung, Saya Chai, U Kyaw Nyunt, and U Aye Maung—secretary of the commission.

The meeting ended at 1055.

NLD To Participate in Election Despite Ban

BK1901024390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jan 90 p 9

[Text] Burma's main opposition party is likely to stand in the country's first free elections in 29 years despite the disqualification of its leader Aung San Suu Kyi, diplomats said yesterday.

Rangoon-based diplomats, contacted by telephone by REUTERS, said they were confident the National League for Democracy (NLD), which has put up 300 candidates nationwide, would run in the elections in May.

Aung San Suu Kyi, a leading figure in a popular uprising in 1988, was barred on Tuesday from standing in the polls because of alleged contacts with banned organisations, NLD officials said.

Armed troop reinforcements deployed on the streets of Rangoon to prevent protests following the decision were still in evidence yesterday, diplomats said.

"There are truckloads of soldiers around at the moment, more than I have seen in a number of months, just to remind people who's in control so that things don't get out of hand," one Western diplomat said.

A spokesman for the ruling military council yesterday did not comment on the banning of Aung San Suu Kyi, which has yet to be officially announced.

He hinted at a news conference that she had links with ethnic Kachin guerrillas, one of about a dozen groups fighting for autonomy from the Rangoon government.

He cited an article in a Bangkok newspaper last week that said Kachin insurgent leaders "expressed full support" for Aung San Suu Kyi to contest the election.

The NLD has asked the National Election Commission to examine the disqualification ruling made by a lower commission, one Western diplomat said, adding that final verdict was likely on Monday.

There is no formal right of appeal under election rules established by the ruling military council.

"It is going to create a lot of tension if she is banned," one diplomat said. "Aung San Suu Kyi has become a household word. She is known and respected even in far-off villages."

Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been held incommunicado under house arrest since last July, was a leading figure in the popular revolt against 25 years of military-led rule that was crushed by the September 18, 1988 army takeover.

The US State Department issued a statement saying it was closely watching the situation and hoped Aung San Suu Kyi would be allowed to stand, an embassy spokesman said.

More than 100 parties have registered for the elections, which diplomats expect to be an army-rigged sham.

Diplomats said they were puzzled by the commission's indecision over Aung San Suu Kyi.

Cambodia

Heng Samrin Greets New Czechoslovak President

BK1501105590 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Recently, Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia Council of State, sent a congratulatory message to His Excellency Vaclav Havel on his election as president of the CSSR. The message said:

On behalf of the State of Cambodia's Council of State and the Cambodian people and in my own name, I would like to extend our sincere and cordial congratulations to you on your election as the president of the CSSR.

I am convinced that the bond of fraternal friendship and the fruitful comprehensive cooperation between our two countries and two peoples will further develop.

May you enjoy good health and success in your noble mission for the interests of the fraternal Czechoslovak people.

Leaders Receive More National Day Greetings

GDR Foreign Minister's Message

BK1301070090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Comrade Hun Sen, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, recently received a greetings message from Comrade Oskar Fischer, foreign minister of the GDR. The message noted:

I would like to extend warm greetings to you on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the liberation of Cambodia from the Pol Pot regime. The GDR will pay great attention to preserving and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation for mutual interests between our two states and two peoples.

Hungarian Leaders' Message

BK1401091090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Comrade Heng Samrin, chairman of the State Council; and Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, received a greetings message from Dr Matyas Szuros, acting president of the Republic of Hungary; and Miklos Nemeth, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, on the 11th anniversary of the glorious 7 January national day.

The message read:

On behalf of the Hungarian people and in our own names, we would like to convey best wishes to you and the friendly Cambodian people. We have followed with interest and highly valued the efforts aimed at improving the living conditions in your country and rebuilding an independent, democratic, and nonaligned Cambodia.

We firmly believe that the cooperation between our two countries will further develop in the common interest of our peoples and for the cause of peace and social progress.

May you have the best of health and new, still greater successes in carrying out your great responsibility.

Hungarian Message to Chea Sim

BK1401093090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] On the 11th anniversary of the glorious 7 January national day, Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the State of Cambodia's National Assembly, received a greetings message from Dr (Tudos Sulvan), acting chairman of the Republic of Hungary's National Assembly.

The message read:

On behalf of the Hungarian National Assembly and in my own name, I would like to extend to you and to the members of the State of Cambodia's National Assembly our respects and best wishes.

May you score new successes in the implementation of a national reconciliation policy with the aim of rebuilding an independent, democratic, and nonaligned Cambodia.

Battle Activities in Kompong Thom Reported

BK1601053890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] After the Vietnamese volunteer troops had completely withdrawn from Cambodia, the three reactionary Khmer groups escalated their adventurous military activities by mustering the remnants of their forces to sneak into the territory and attack and capture our villages and communes. All their activities, however, have been badly beaten.

As a matter of fact, during the last 3 months of 1989, the Armed Forces of Kompong Thom Province used their combined forces, combined means, and combined measures against the enemies to put out of action 561 assorted enemy soldiers, including 236 who were killed, 57 who were captured, 150 who were wounded, and 118 who surrendered. They also seized 147 assorted weapons and a large amount of war materiel.

Sihanouk Sends 'Special Message' to People

BK1801124790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Message from Norodom Sihanouk, president of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia, and head of the Cambodian coalition government, to the Cambodian people; dated 9 January—recorded]

[Text] I, Samdech Euv [Sihanouk's popular title] Norodom Sihanouk, would like to send this special message. This is not a written message, nor a formal or official one. This is cordially sent as a member of the same family and a compatriot. I would like to address this special message to grandparents and compatriots, who are noble citizens living in our Cambodian motherland.

First of all, I would like to pay respect to the revered clergy representing Buddhism, our national religion. Next, I would like to greet grandparents, relatives, and compatriots—who are greatly loved and missed by the samdech euv. I have been separated from you for many years due to bad fortune and fate, which has made me an exile. I was in exile from 1970 to 1975 due to the Lon Nol group's coup d'etat. Afterward, I was away from the country because of the war between the Vietnamese aggressor troops and those of the Pol Pot/Khmer Rouge group. I miss all of you and want to be with you very much. Unfortunately, I am not able to do this.

Despite my efforts to solve the Cambodian problem, Hun Sen and his group—collaborators with the Soviet imperialists and Vietnamese colonialists—have refused to solve the problem justly in accordance with Cambodia's supreme interests to make Cambodia an independent country with territorial integrity, as it was in the era of the samdech euv and the Sangkom Reas Niyom [Sihanouk's political party when he was in power in Cambodia]. I have held talks with Hun Sen five or six times already and achieved nothing. The Hun Sen group has refused to solve the problem justly for Cambodia, our motherland. Hun Sen said the people in Cambodia like his regime, and boasted that if there were a free election, 80 percent of the Cambodian people would vote for the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin regime—which collaborates with Vietnam and serves the Vietnamese colonialists.

If this is so, why do Hun Sen and his regime refuse to go along with Samdech Sihanouk's request, which only asks that the two sides—Democratic Kampuchea and Hun Sen's State of Cambodia—agree to the dissolution of the two states, administrations, governments, and armies. These should be dissolved and the United Nations allowed to be in charge in Cambodia for a period of time. This organization—which has sufficient troops to protect our citizens and people—should restore peace and organize elections. After the elections—in the event that the party of Hun Sen and Heng Samrin wins—if they want Cambodia to become communist as it is now; if they want Cambodia to become Vietnam's servant; and if they want to hand over Cambodia's natural resources to Vietnam, to the Soviet Union, and to other foreign countries, they can do so. Because, once our Cambodian people—the owners of the land—have so decided through elections by voting for Hun Sen and his group, I would have no objections as long as the people genuinely voted for Hun Sen.

However, Hun Sen wants to organize elections in 1991, and we nationalists—who have never betrayed the nation—cannot accept this election result as correct and just because the people would be in a communist framework that they do not like. The people are still servants of Vietnam—something the people do not want but which has been imposed by Hun Sen. Nationalists and well brought up Cambodians who do not betray the nation will not accept Hun Sen's election result as correct.

I would like to affirm again that my proposal is to dissolve the Khmer Rouge's Democratic Kampuchea and Hun Sen's and Heng Samrin's State of Cambodia, which was set up by Vietnam and is Vietnam's satellite. These two should be dissolved and the United Nations allowed to be in charge for a period to organize proper elections. And, through these elections, it will be up to our people—the owners of Cambodia—to decide who will win: Sihanouk, Hun Sen, Son Sann, or anyone else. The winner will decide Cambodia's destiny in accordance with the election mandate. This is genuine democracy. As for the democracy currently practiced by Hun Sen, we cannot accept it. For this reason, after five or six rounds of talks with Hun Sen, I did not achieve anything because Hun Sen refused to go by the practice followed by truly democratic countries.

Concerning the Khmer Rouge issue, I would like to stress again and again that I do not collaborate with the Khmer Rouge. There is no need for me to assist the Khmer Rouge. I am not one who loves or trusts the Khmer Rouge. As all of you know, 5 sons of mine, 14 grandchildren, and numerous relatives were massacred and tortured by Pol Pot, Ta Mok, Ieng Sary, Khieu Samphan, and Son Sen—the Khmer Rouge. Even my grandchildren, who were just born and innocent, were maltreated and massacred without mercy. I have heard that some of my grandchildren were even fed to crocodiles. How can I love the Khmer Rouge? Why should I want to return the Khmer Rouge to power to massacre fellow Cambodians like they did in the Pol Pot era? I do not need the Khmer Rouge. I struggle as a nationalist who is not a Khmer Rouge. I struggle with my son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and the ANS—Sihanoukist National Army—as nationalists with a duty and obligation to carry out. We will struggle to the end even at the cost of our lives. What for? It is a struggle for justice for Cambodia, the Cambodian people, and our Cambodian motherland.

What is this justice? It is as follows:

1. We should not be the satellite of any country: China, the United States, France, the Soviet Union, Vietnam, or Thailand. We should recover 100 percent independence as in the samdech euv era, 1953-1969. This would satisfy us.

2. Cambodia should enjoy territorial integrity with its land and maritime borders the same as in the Sangkom Reas Niyom era, 1960-1969, when the international community recognized Cambodia's land and maritime borders. Now these borders have been damaged or lost because the Hun Sen group has sold the country and land to Vietnam.

Vietnam has annexed our territory and is colonizing our country. There are currently over a million Vietnamese colonialists. There are still large numbers of disguised Vietnamese soldiers in Cambodia despite the claim that

they have all been withdrawn. Furthermore, there are over a million civilians who have taken over and plundered our Cambodian resources and antiques. Natural resources such as rubber and forests have been plundered. Our fish in Tonle Sap and the sea have all been plundered. Countless villages—thousands of them, not hundreds—adjoining Vietnam, and Cambodian islands have been taken over.

In the past, Vietnam claimed these from the samdech euv, who never agreed to the Vietnamese demands. He preserved 100 percent of our Cambodian territorial integrity. Now, however, Hun Sen and his regime have allowed Vietnam to nibble at our territory. Some villages have become Vietnamese. The same goes for some small cities. Vietnam has changed the names of our islands and of many of our districts and villages. They are no longer Cambodian; they are now Vietnamese. This is the truth.

We nationalists must struggle against the Vietnamese enemy to restore our Cambodia's independence along with its territorial integrity. Otherwise, our Cambodia will become a Vietnamese province, like Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory, now part of south Vietnam], which is now a Vietnamese province known to the world as south Vietnam. This was southern Cambodia and it belonged to Cambodians. Now it belongs to Vietnam. This was partly due to France, which assisted Vietnam in this matter—giving what belonged to Cambodia to Vietnam.

If we now let France, the United States, Australia, and some countries which have decided to assist Vietnam, the Soviet Union, and Hun Sen make Cambodia a slave and a colony of Vietnam, we will die. Our country will die. We Cambodians would be like the Cham [ethnic group from central Vietnam]. Our Cham brothers rely on us. We call them Muslim Cambodians. They lost their Champa kingdom [in central Vietnam] and sought refuge in Cambodia. If our Cambodia becomes Champa or the second Kampuchea Kraom, what would become of us, Buddhist Cambodians and Muslim Cambodians? Where would we go if we lose our motherland? Some of our Muslim Cambodians have become Malaysians or Indonesians on reaching those countries, which practice the same religion, Islam. What about us Buddhist Cambodians? Some of us have become French, American, German, Canadian, or Australian. They are no longer Cambodian nationals. Our Cambodian race is now on the decline. Our culture and territory are being lost. Can we accept this? Please, compatriots, think about it with me.

This is why we should struggle to the end, until Vietnam agrees to restore all of our land to us—such as the area called the Parrot Beak and Chantrea [in the southwestern Cambodian province of Svay Rieng], until all Vietnamese leave our country and return Cambodia to the Cambodians, and until Hun Sen and his regime agree to dissolve their regime and become simply a party like others. All of the parties would then submit themselves to the people, owners of the land and ballots. Let the people decide through elections supervised by the United Nations. In accordance with this election, if it is correct, if Hun Sen wins, he can sell Cambodia to Vietnam if he wants to and if the Cambodian people so wish. However, if the Cambodian people have not properly decided through elections—not the ones Hun Sen plans for 1991—we cannot accept it. We have to fight.

This struggle, I would like to affirm, does not mean we work for the Khmer Rouge or cooperate with the Khmer Rouge. We nationalists are not Khmer Rouge. You can ask all Sihanoukists if any one of them likes the Khmer Rouge. Is there anyone who did not suffer under the Khmer Rouge? The families of Sihanouk and all Sihanoukists suffered under the Khmer Rouge.

As for the Hun Sen group, please do not boast so much about opposing the Khmer Rouge. This group is also Khmer Rouge. Compatriots and children, please do not forget that the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin group is also Khmer Rouge. The only difference is that the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan-Son Sen-Ta Mok group sides with the People's Republic of China while the Hun Sen-Heng Samrin-Chea Sim-Hor Nam Hong group has sold the country to the SRV and the Soviet Union. This is the only difference. One is siding with China and the other is a servant of Vietnam and the Soviet Union, but they are Khmer Rouge. They all took part in massacring the Cambodian people. It was not the families of Hor Nam Hong and the Hun Sen group that suffered; the families of Sihanouk and the nationalists did.

For this reason, I would like to appeal to the Hun Sen troops. Please think carefully. Who are you fighting for now? Are you fighting for the Cambodian nation or for Vietnam? Are you fighting for an independent Cambodia or for a Cambodia that is Vietnam's slave so our present Cambodia can become Kampuchea Kraom, Champa, or a Vietnamese province? Children who are currently serving Hun Sen and Vietnam in Hun Sen's army, please think about it. Are you dying as nationalists or as traitors? I believe that you, well brought up Cambodians, will awaken in time and will no longer be duped by Vietnam, and will bring weapons, tanks, and large and small weapons to join the samdech euv's army and become the Sihanoukist National Army. This is to sufficiently develop it in order to liberate our Cambodian nation from the Vietnamese and Soviet grips and from communism, and to become true nationalists and oppose the Khmer Rouge to prevent the latter from maltreating the people.

The Sihanoukist National Army is currently a small army because the United States does not assist it. The Americans hate Sihanouk because Sihanouk used to fight U.S. imperialism; they have not forgiven Sihanouk for fighting against them. There is no need for the United States to assist Sihanouk and help the latter's army. Other countries also do not like Sihanouk because Sihanouk is too independent. Instead, they assist the troops of Son Sann, Sutsakhan, and the Khmer Rouge, and so on, but not the Sihanoukist army. A little assistance is

given out of politeness and because it is unavoidable. This assistance is not for the development of the Sihanouk forces.

For this reason, I would like to appeal to Hun Sen's troops to abandon the Vietnamese colonialists. Do not die for the Vietnamese and Hun Sen, who is serving Vietnam's interests and is a former Khmer Rouge who also massacred many innocent Cambodian nationalists. Children, please awaken and join the Sihanoukist National Army with Prince Norodom Ranariddh as commander in chief so we can unite and pool our forces—not just troops, but materiel also—to assist our nation. Please stop serving the Soviet Union, Vietnam, and communism. Please help liberate the nation and after liberation, oppose the Khmer Rouge in order to prevent them from using their troops to maltreat innocent people who are not Khmer Rouge. Only in this way can we solve the Cambodian problem. We should awaken in time.

Before ending this message, I would like to recall that a few days ago, 49 nationalist Cambodian students—who were allowed by Hun Sen and Vietnam to study in East Germany—defected from communist Germany to free Germany in West Berlin, West Germany. They sent a message to the samdech euv saying that they now realize that the Hun Sen regime is fighting for Vietnam's interests and serving only Vietnam's colonialist interests. This regime is out-and-out Vietnam's lackey; it is not a regime that loves peace and national independence. The Hun Sen regime is betraying the nation and serving only the interests of Vietnam and its communist allies. It is not serving Cambodian national interests and national independence. For this reason, 49 children, Cambodian students studying in communist Germany, fled to free Germany to serve the samdech euv, the nation, and Cambodia as nationalists. They have asked to become members of the samdech euv's FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] to build independence and neutrality with territorial integrity. These 49 children are now rightful members of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's front, FUNCINPEC.

Therefore, children who are now in the Hun Sen forces, please follow the example of the 49 in communist Germany who fled to free Germany. Please bring over the tanks, large and small weapons, ammunition, and war materiel in your possession to join Samdech Sihanouk's army so that our forces can have great strength to:

1. Liberate the nation from the grip of Vietnamese and Soviet colonialism and communism; and
2. Prevent the Khmer Rouge from maltreating our people the way they used to in the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary era.

This is what I have to say to conclude the message. May all of you enjoy the following blessings: longevity, good social standing, good health, strength, and enlightenment.

Long live independent Cambodia!
Long live our Cambodian national liberation struggle!

Sihanouk Says Khmer Rouge 'Gaining Support'

BK1901014590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Exiled Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk has said the Khmer Rouge, his arch-enemy and ally of expediency, is fast gaining support among the peasants of his war-racked homeland.

In an open letter to the "powers of the free world," Sihanouk warned against abandoning his cause of fighting Communism in the Indochinese state and said some countries were losing sight of what he called the realities.

The ascendancy of the Khmer Rouge over the "countryside...has greatly been increasing these past months" along with a disintegration of the administration of the Vietnamese-backed Hun Sen government in Phnom Penh, he said.

He said many people had too simplistic an idea of the Khmer Rouge, who aroused international revulsion for their brutal 1975-78 revolution when more than one million Cambodians died in the attempt to wipe out all trappings of a modern society.

"You believe, wrongly, that the Khmer Rouge are rejected by the entire Khmer (Cambodian) people and are convinced (they) rule over such or such districts or provinces of Cambodia through terror and their 'policy of genocide'.

"The reality does not correspond with this too simple picture you have of the Khmer Rouge, in the midst of the Khmer people," he said in the statement, dated January 14 and made available to REUTERS here yesterday.

"Indeed, the great majority of the Khmer fear, hate and reject the Khmer Rouge.

"But there is quite a number of Khmer...who adopt, help and support the Khmer Rouge and endorse their ultra-nationalistic and proletarian ideology," said the prince.

He said the guerrilla faction's army "comprises 40,000 purely Khmer combatants, who are not only formidably equipped...but who are especially highly motivated in their ideology and—why not recognise it—their patriotism."

Some Western diplomats here have said the Khmer Rouge have been making political gains to match their military successes since the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia last September.

"They are beavering away among the peasantry—arriving at a village, humiliating the (Phnom Penh-appointed) headman, paying a high price for rice—the classic communist guerilla tactics," said one diplomat.

"The Khmer Rouge is perceived as much less a bogeyman in the countryside than in the columns of THE NEW YORK TIMES," he said, referring to a series

of Western press articles vigorously warning of the danger of a Khmer Rouge return.

Sihanouk, who ruled Cambodia for nearly 30 years until overthrown in a coup in 1970, lost more than a dozen members of his family in the Khmer Rouge slaughter and was personally humiliated after trying to work with them in 1975.

Sihanouk Praises Reorganization in Thmar Puok

BK1901074090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] His Royal Highness [HRH] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of the Cambodian coalition government, praised the reorganization of the zone just liberated by the Cambodian resistance forces. In his message dated 18 January, the samdech thanked and praised Major General Chhim Suleng in charge of the interior administration of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC], and the group which carried out the successful mission in the Thmar Puok area which was captured by noncommunist Cambodian resistance forces. This region has been well reorganized and supplied.

Earlier, Maj Gen Chhim Suleng and some of his colleagues distributed $11,000 worth of gifts from HRH Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to the Cambodian people in Thmar Puok District, including people coming from other zones still under the control of the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers, and made a donation for the building of a temple in that region. At the same time, Maj Gen Chhim Suleng presented money collected from a fund-raising religious ceremony at the Site B camp and gifts from the Cambodian Women's Association and Buddhists Association of the FUNCINPEC to Cambodians living in Thmar Pouk.

The noncommunist Cambodian resistance forces have captured several important positions from the Vietnamese-Heng Samrin soldiers over the past few months. Recently, the Sihanoukist National Army seized the Varin District seat, just over 30 km from Siem Reap town.

'Smashing' of SRV Regiment in Battambang Noted

BK1801041590 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Following is an additional report on the smashing of the Vietnamese "Ngor-50" Intervention Regiment, called the "Ninja Unit" by the Vietnamese, in Battambang town:

On 5 January, our national resistance forces launched a seven-pronged attack on Battambang town. Three prongs of this attack were directed against the Bek Chan airfield, the university, and the nun's hospital where the Vietnamese "Ngor-50" Intervention Regiment, called the "Ninja Unit," was stationed.

During this attack, our national resistance forces routed and caused heavy losses to this Vietnamese "Ngor-50" Intervention Regiment.

It should be noted that this "Ngor-50" Intervention Regiment or "Ninja Unit" is a regular intervention unit moving about on the Battambang battlefield. That is, it launches attacks on Treng-Route 10 battlefield and auxiliary activities on Sisophon battlefield. Because a large part of this unit was smashed and routed by our national resistance forces on Treng-Route 10 battlefield in November and December and over half of the rest of the unit became exhausted and ill, on 26 December 1989 the Vietnamese Command in the 5th Military Region decided to send members of this regiment to Battambang town, stationing them at Bek Chan airfield, the university, and the nun's hospital for rest and recreation in preparation for further intervention activities.

However, on the night of 5 January this Vietnamese "Ngor-50" Intervention Regiment was utterly routed and smashed by our forces. For this reason, the Vietnamese enemies recently decided to send 8 or 9 Vietnamese military officers and more than 150 Vietnamese soldiers to protect the "Ngor-50" Intervention Regiment in Battambang town.

Bridge Said Destroyed in East Kompong Cham

BK1401042890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] On 5 January, our national resistance forces completely destroyed a Vietnamese-puppet 20-meter bridge between Chey Sambat and Khneng Phdau in Dambe District, east Kompong Cham battlefield.

The next morning, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets, coming to inspect the damaged bridge, were intercepted. We killed three and wounded four enemy troops and forced the remaining enemy soldiers to retreat in panic.

Reports on Reorganization of 5th Military Region

BK1401041290 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Excerpt] On the night of 5 January, our national resistance forces attacked and destroyed the 5th Military Region command and other enemy strategic positions in the Battambang provincial capital, killing many members of the military region command both Vietnamese and puppet. Following the setback, the Hanoi authorities have reorganized the 5th Military Region command as follows:

1. The Vietnamese called (Ba Phuoc), former commissar of Division 94, is appointed commissar of the 5th Military region.
2. The Vietnamese called (Phoc) is appointed commander of the military region.

3. The Vietnamese called (Hai) is named head of the military region's political department.
4. The Vietnamese called (Chai) and (Bai Ba), former experts of Division 94, are appointed heads of the military region's security department to protect the E50 experts in Battambang.

Apart from this, the Vietnamese enemies have also assigned five other division-level experts to the 5th Military Region and named a Cambodian-speaking Vietnamese as interpreter-expert for the military region. [passage omitted]

Varin District Seat Reportedly 'Liberated'

BK1901023890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 19 Jan 90

["Special report on attack to sweep Varin District and liberate Varin District seat in Siem Reap Province"]

[Text] On 16 January, our national resistance forces attacked, swept, and liberated four Vietnamese-puppet positions, which are the linking points and transportation routes from Angkor Thom to Don Sva and Varin, and totally dispersed administrative networks and liberated village and commune administrators in three communes, namely Prasat, Don Peng, and Peak Sbek in Varin District. Our national resistance forces killed nine Vietnamese and puppet soldiers; destroyed four company positions, five barracks and commune offices, and a quantity of war materiel; and routed and dispersed over 200 Cambodian soldiers. Our national resistance forces seized 14 assorted weapons; liberated 3 communes and 13 villages, namely Chan Run, Tumniep Svay, Kap Dai, Prasat, O Vean, Phum O, Russei Toch, Russei Thom, Svay Sar, Cha, Chup, Trapeang Svay, and Phum Prasat; and freed 14 Cambodian soldiers.

On the next day, 17 January, our national resistance forces attacked and totally liberated Varin District seat.

More details will be presented later.

'Genuine' SRV Troops Confront Resistance

BK1301085990 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] 1. Following attacks by our national resistance forces against major strategic positions of the Vietnamese enemy and puppets in Battambang town on the night of 5 January and along Sangke River east of Battambang, which liberated 4 communes and 38 villages, the Vietnamese enemy dispatched genuine Vietnamese troops, hidden in Kompong Chhnang, along Tonle Sap River up to Battambang to assist their colleagues in Battambang town.

2. After the repeated attacks by the national resistance forces to cut off Route 5 and the railway line at many places on the Moung-Pursat battlefield and to constantly cut off Route 56 in the past 2 months, the Vietnamese enemy dispatched 150 genuine Vietnamese soldiers of Division 339 wearing Cambodian troops' uniforms to Phteas Rong Commune to oppose our national resistance forces.

On other battlefields too, it is the same thing. When the combined puppet and Vietnamese forces failed to resist our Cambodian national resistance troops, genuine Vietnamese troops in hiding in Cambodia since September 1989, have successively come out to directly confront our Cambodian national resistance forces.

This clearly shows people that an overwhelming number of Vietnamese aggressor troops, hundreds of thousands of them, continue to stay on in Cambodia to continue occupying Cambodia forever. Therefore, the ongoing war in Cambodia remains the war of aggression of the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy.

Indonesia

Suharto Meets With Soviet AAPSO Vice President

BK1801110990 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1028 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 18 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesia fully respects the Soviet's ways and means in solving its internal issues and the Indonesian Government hopes that the issues can be solved in a short time, President Suharto stated here Thursday. Indonesia considered the latest developments in the Soviet Union as the internal affairs of that country, the president was quoted as saying by Minister/State Secretary Murdiono after his meeting with visiting Soviet Vice President [of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization, AAPSO] Mirza Azhdar ogly Ibragimov at the Istana Merdeka presidential palace.

"We fully respect the ways and measures taken by the Soviet Union in solving its domestic affairs," said Murdiono quoting the head of state. During the one-and-a-half hour meeting, the Soviet vice president briefed President Suharto on the current developments in his country, Murdiono said.

The people of several Soviet republics, such as Lithuania and Azerbaijan have been wanting autonomy from Moscow's control.

On that occasion, Murdiono said, the two leaders agreed to take concrete steps as the follow-up of last year's trip of President Suharto to the Soviet Union. For this purpose, the Soviet guest held a meeting with Coordinating Minister for Economy, Finance, and Industry Radius Prawiro on Thursday afternoon, he added. According to Murdiono, both Ibragimov and Radius Prawiro would focus their discussions on economic matters such as investment.

Indonesia, the minister said, needed large volumes of cotton which could be imported from the East European country.

An Indonesian company recently signed an agreement with a Soviet state corporation to build a palm oil processing plant in the Soviet Union. "It was also due to the concrete result of the recent visit of President Suharto to the Soviet Union," Murdiono added.

The president's visit was a historic event, not only for the two countries, but also for the international and regional interests, said Murdiono.

During the meeting, President Suharto also conveyed an invitation to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to pay a visit to Indonesia.

Murdiono further said that the two leaders agreed to implement a Muslim exchange program between the two countries, particularly with Uzbekistan where the majority of the population consists of Muslims. Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, is expected to invite Indonesian Muslims, or at least a mufti [Muslim jurist], in the coming several months. The exchange of visits will give them the opportunity to exchange views and ideas, the minister said.

He conceded that Indonesia is exploring the possibility of using planes belonging to Soviet airline companies, particularly Aeroflot, for the transportation of Indonesian haj pilgrims beginning this coming haj season.

Radio Comments on Meeting

BK1901044890 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] President Suharto and Mirza Azhdar ogly Ibragimov, Soviet vice president [of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization] and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of Uzbekistan, held a meeting at Merdeka Palace yesterday which centered on more concrete steps to be taken following President Suharto's visit to the Soviet Union last year, in particular to the Republic of Uzbekistan. After the meeting, Minister-State Secretary Murdiono clarified that the two parties agreed to hasten bilateral economic cooperation as a result of their previous meeting last year. Steps to further improve bilateral economic cooperation were discussed yesterday by Ibragimov and Radius Prawiro, minister of state for economy, finance, industry, and development supervision.

As clarified by Minister Murdiono, in an effort to further realize their objectives, the Soviet deputy foreign minister is expected to arrive in Indonesia on Monday [22 January] to hold a final meeting concerning technical issues. The issue, among other things, is to expedite the immigration process, especially the issuance of visas, in an effort to further smooth the flow of people between the countries—especially for the diplomatic and industrial sectors.

In facing the current global economic situation, which is filled with challenging and competitive trading, Indonesia will definitely need to diversify and widen its trading activities to export-orientated countries so that its export market will not be fully dependent on certain countries. In an effort to further create a more healthy and balanced trading pattern, Indonesia needs to break away from its traditional product market by further widening it to countries such as the Soviet Union.

Such an opportunity is currently wide open after that superpower nation announced its perestroyka program providing a freer and more relaxed movement in several sectors. For example, in the economic sector, the Soviet Union has widened its economy by having an independent market system. Based on this economic system, Soviet entrepreneurs have more flexibility to conduct bilateral trading with their foreign counterparts in an effort to fulfill the needs of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union's ability to absorb a greater market will provide the Indonesian enterpreneurs with a greater opportunity to increase their exports. Steps to further smooth the way in this direction had been taken during a meeting of the Indonesian and Soviet leaders.

As a country which practices an open economic system, Indonesia stands by its principles and desires to establish trade relations with every country in the world, including the Soviet Union. Such economic cooperation is mutually beneficial and will not encroach on one another's internal affairs.

Alatas Asks for Reprieve for Drug Trafficker

BK1801130590 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0956 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Jakarta, Jan. 18 (OANA/ANTARA)—The Indonesian Government is still trying to have the Malaysian Government repeal the death sentence on the gallows passed on Basri Masse (37), scheduled to take place in a few hours.

"In our efforts we are showing several aspects which at least could be used as a basis for reviewing the death sentence", Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said to reporters at Wisma Negara [State Guesthouse] on Thursday [18 January], one day before the execution of Masse. Indonesia has no intention at all to interfere in this problem or the authority of the Malaysian court of justice, and Indonesia also understands the limitations of the executive or Malaysian Government in facing the judiciary, Ali Alatas said.

Asked whether there is still hope to help Masse, Alatas said, "We are continuing our efforts, but up till now, the answer has been negative. But we are still hoping for a reprieve", he added. According to Alatas, before his departure abroad, he sent a letter to the Malaysian Government through its Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar asking for a reprieve for Masse, while pointing out several shortcomings in the Basri Masse court proceedings.

Basri was caught while in possession of marijuana in March 1983. He was sentenced to death in 1986 according to the application of a law which became effective only in 1986. This means that the law was enforced retroactively and this is one of the reasons why Indonesia has asked for a reprieve in the death sentence, Alatas said.

Basri is kept in custody in Kapayang prison, Kota Kinabalu, and if no reprieve is granted, he will be hanged on Friday.

Security Chief Predicts Increase in Terrorism

BK1601142390 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Sudomo, coordinating minister for political and security affairs, predicts that terrorism, in its various forms, will continue to grow this year by capitalizing on social injustice and dissatisfaction, lack of communication, and the growing gap between the rich and the poor.

Speaking at a national seminar on international terrorism in Jakarta today, Sudomo said terrorism arises as a result of vast territories still controlled by certain countries that want to have their way in solving ethnic and religious problems. To cope with such terrorist activities, political means as well as the support of the law are needed.

Touching on efforts to cope with terrorist activities in Indonesia, Sudomo believes that they must be put under the responsibility of a single organization. However, he also stressed the importance of coordinating work among government officials, departmental and non-departmental agencies, and other related agencies.

The national seminar on international terrorism is being held by the National University to mark its 40th founding anniversary and is being attended by representatives from government agencies, the private sector, and state universities. The seminar is aimed at contributing views and proposals to the United Nations on ways to cope with terrorism.

Energy Minister on Jan Crude Oil Prices

BK1301082990 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0708 GMT 13 Jan 90

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 13 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia hopes the world oil price would not drop too drastically in the few months ahead despite the fact that winter in the consumer countries is ending and oil supply is in abundance, Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said.

"We hope the fall in the price would not be too drastic," the minister said after meeting with President Suharto Saturday [13 January] to report about Indonesia's crude oil price for January contracts.

He said for January the price of Indonesia's Minas [crude oil] is 19.24 U.S. dollars per barrel compared to 18 U.S. dollars per barrel in December 1989 and 17.86 U.S. dollars per barrel in November.

The price of Arjuna [crude oil] for January is 19.47 U.S. dollars per barrel compared to 18.33 U.S. dollars per barrel in December and 18.13 U.S. dollars per barrel in November.

Ginanjar said the oil price has moved up fast lately due to the long winter in consumer countries and to the breakdown of operations in several refineries which caused a slowdown in supply.

Improvement of relations among OPEC countries, for example between Iraq and Iran, is also a factor determining the hike in oil price.

As a regular cycle, the price is expected to fall in February, March, and April and to rise again in June, July, and August, he said.

Ginanjar also reported to President Suharto about the visit to Indonesia of Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazir from January 18. He also reported that he would travel to the Philippines and Australia this month.

Laos

Government To Refuse Any Refugees Forced Home

BK1801143190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] In connection with a report published by THE NATION on 3 January, citing a Thai official—whose name was withheld at his request—as saying that the Thai authorities might force some 5,000 Lao refugees from Ban Winai refugee camp to return home, our correspondent called on Mali-gnat Sai-gnavong, chief of the Foreign Ministry's International Organization Department, on the morning of 18 January to seek an explanation.

He said: The unilateral forced repatriation of the 5,000 refugees by the Thai refugee center officials is deemed incompatible with the contents and spirit of the two meetings of the representatives of Laos, Thailand, and the UNHCR [United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Refugees] Office, which were held last year. The first tripartite meeting was held in Thailand's Udon Thani Province in April during which the three sides agreed with the Lao decision to take home 150 refugees per month on a regular basis in accordance with their condition and capability. The second meeting was held in Vientiane in September of last year. At this meeting, the Lao side agreed to take home as many as 300 refugees per month. However, in practice, the number of refugees repatriated always exceeded the quota agreed on by the three sides.

Mali-gnat Sai-gnavong stressed that the Thai should reciprocate the Lao side's goodwill and agreement to take home refugees in an orderly manner as agreed by the three sides and to refrain from pushing Lao refugees home in a disorderly manner. If the Thai side institutes a unilateral forced repatriation of Lao refugees, the Lao side will certainly not take such refugees and will send them back to Thailand.

The chief of the International Organization Department added that from April to the end of last year, the Thai pushed more than 3,000 Lao refugees back into Laos in a disorderly and unorganized manner.

SRV-Lao Economic Cooperation Talks Reported

BK1401093690 Hanoi VNA in English 0615 GMT 14 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 14—Vietnamese and Lao economic delegations held talks in Vientiane on Jan. 12 to discuss measures to further promote the cooperation between the two countries.

During its two-week long working visit to Laos the Vietnamese delegation led by Tran Phuong, vice-chairman of the State Planning Commission, was received by Sali Vongkhamsao, vice-chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers and minister of economy, planning and finance. The Lao vice-chairman informed his guests of the implementation of Laos' 1989 state plan as well as the 1990 socioeconomic development plan.

Soviet Peace Delegation on Working Visit

BK1801125190 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 18 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, January 18 (KPL)—A delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Peace Protection led by its vice president Petrovitch Masline [name as received], arrived here on January 16 for a one-week long working visit at the invitation of the Lao Committee for World Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship With Nations.

During its stay here, the Soviet peace delegation will meet a Lao peace delegation and exchange views on the promotion and development of cooperation in the interest of peace and development.

The Soviet peace delegation will also meet representatives of the Lao mass organizations and give lectures on the cooperation of mass organizations in the interest of socioeconomic and cultural development in the new atmosphere of the present world.

Phoun Sipaseut Receives Outgoing French Envoy

BK1901114390 Vientiane KPL in English 0938 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 19 (KPL)—Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Phoun Sipaseut, on January 18, received here a farewell call by French Ambassador to Laos Mr. Marc Menguy who ended his diplomatic mission here.

The Lao foreign minister, on this occasion, expressed thanks to and acclaimed the ambassador's contribution to the development and expansion of the Lao-French ties in the interest of the two peoples.

UNDP-Financed Mining Project Reported

BK1501122490 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] Vientiane, Jan 15 (KPL)—On Monday, 15 January 1990, the project document for a new UNDP [United Nations Development Program]-financed, ILO [International Labor Organization]-executed project entitled "Support to the Mining Sector of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic]" (Lao/88/023) was signed by Mr Mali-gna Sai-gnavong, director, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign affairs, and Ms Carroll Long, resident representative, UNDP, according to the UNDP's press release.

The project is designed to promote mining development by strengthening the capacity of the Department of Geology and Mines of the Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts for mineral exploration, evaluation and development, and to rehabilitate the laboratories for chemical analysis and mineral identification. It will also support the initiation of a national geochemical survey and a geological database/mineral inventory.

UNDP's contribution to the project is US dollars 1,193,000, while the government's contribution is kips 24,500,000.

Saman Vi-gnaket Issues Message on Illiteracy

BK1801145190 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1200 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Message from Saman Vi-gnaket, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau, minister of education and sports, and chairman of the Lao National Committee for the International Year of Illiteracy Eradication, to the Lao people on the occasion of the International Year of Illiteracy Eradication—read by announcer]

[Text] Beloved compatriots: The UN General Assembly session has announced that 1990 is to be an International Year of Illiteracy Eradication. It is a year in which various nations throughout the world will join in celebrating this year by encouraging and stepping up movements to implement plans for the period from now until the year 2000 with a view to successfully stamping out illiteracy in their respective countries.

On the occasion of the International Year of Illiteracy Eradication in 1990, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] has set up a National Committee for the International Year of Illiteracy Eradication at the central level, and has instructed each

province to set up a similar committee with the intent of encouraging and boosting the multiethnic people to clearly understand the undesirable consequences of being illiterate and maintaining a low level of cultural understanding, and to determine to enthusiastically and continuously take part in supplementary education and cultural training movements.

Over the past years, supplementary education and cultural training has been considerably expanded in some provinces. As of now, four districts have completed cultural training at the primary level, while many localities have been striving to complete the training at the primary level so as to further organize training at the secondary and senior high school levels. The achievements we have scored in this field have been internationally praised. Because of outstanding achievements, Siangkho District in Houa Phan Province was awarded the (Lokaya) Prize in 1985, and Gnot Ngum Canton in Pek District, Xieng Khouang Province, was awarded the (Noma) Honorary Prize in 1988. This once again proves the determination of teachers, cadres, combatants, state employees, and our multiethnic people to overcome various difficulties in guiding, teaching, and studying.

I highly appreciate the perseverance of the cadres as well as of the fraternal people in surmounting difficulties. I also appreciate past contributions of friendly countries and international organizations to our country's illiteracy eradication and cultural training work.

Despite the aforesaid achievements, we see in general that a literate people is becoming illiterate again, and that illiteracy is increasing. In short, the supplementary education and cultural training movements have come to a standstill in many localities; cadres, combatants, workers, and people have maintained an incorrect understanding of roles and the significance of illiteracy eradication and cultural training work; a number of key cadres in the grassroots have failed to be aware of the situation and have refused to attend training courses; the selection of cadres to study in cultural training schools has failed to serve the purpose and the number selected is still too small; the implementation of policy on teachers and students of supplementary education and cultural training schools is still inappropriate; and so forth.

As a result, the achievements, both in terms of quality and quantity, made in this area have failed to serve the requirements of our country's current socioeconomic development. We can see that an inactive, weak supplementary education and cultural movement has been plagued with numerous difficulties and shortcomings because members of the party and administrative organizations in localities have not yet made enthusiastic contributions to the elimination of illiteracy and to cultural training undertakings. They do not attend classes or make financial and physical efforts to help the elimination of illiteracy and cultural training work.

The fraternal people who have liberated themselves from illiteracy are content with their achievements and do not want to pursue higher education, which they consider an additional burden affecting their careers. A considerable number of illiterate multiethnic people in remote and rural regions whose cultural level is still low do not possess sufficient understanding of the official language and lack an interest in education. The curriculum and textbooks for supplementary education and cultural training are insufficient and ineffective and fail to meet the students' requirements. In order to overcome such conditions and welcome the International Year of Illiteracy Eradication 1990, we must jointly concentrate on [words indistinct] tasks such as:

1. Study our party's and state's political line of thinking, directions, and policies, especially the resolution on education strategy from now to the year 2000, so that the entire party, masses, and all educational sectors are imbued with the party's line and policy on education and are aware of their duty to make financial, mental, and physical contributions to the implementation of the education strategy.
2. Continue surveys on cultural levels of those whose ages require the completion of primary education, and on the number of cadres, workers, and multiethnic people who are illiterate.
3. Improve and renovate the leading organs in charge of supplementary education and cultural training work at the district and provincial level.
4. Broaden the anti-illiteracy and cultural training campaigns in line with UNESCO's worldwide illiteracy eradication campaign.
5. Organize, on a trial basis, youth volunteer groups to eradicate illiteracy in rural regions in cooperation with the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union.
6. Improve existing cultural training schools for cadres at the central, provincial, and district levels, and cultural training schools for multiethnic youths in terms of quality and ranks and files of teachers, teaching and learning methods, and so forth.
7. Expeditiously study and modify the curriculum and prepare new textbooks with contents compatible to learners' requirements, aiming at upgrading the people's quality of life, introducing vocational education and basic cultural knowledge, conducting experiments, and publishing textbooks to serve teaching and learning.
8. Enthusiastically and purposefully organize classes for illiterate people in each locality and upgrade cultural levels for cadres, party members, workers, soldiers, police, and multiethnic people. Organize experimental projects and promote outstanding supplementary education and cultural training units.
9. Revise and improve the policy on allowances for teachers engaging in supplementary education and cultural training work.
10. Draw up programs and budgetary plans for assistance from friendly countries and international and other organizations with the aim of totally wiping out illiteracy and providing a primary education for all.

Beloved cadres, teachers, instructors, combatants, and people: Illiteracy eradication and cultural training work is a heavy, most complicated duty. On the occasion of

the international year of illiteracy eradication in 1990, I call on cadres and administrative organizations at all levels to pay close attention to and direct the illiteracy eradication and cultural training movements under their supervision. I call on all leading education cadres to further heighten their sense of responsibility in carrying out their duties in planning, organizing, and mobilizing the teaching and learning movement for illiteracy eradication and cultural training purposes. I call on mass organizations and educational associations, parents associations, monks and novices, scholars, cadres, combatants, workers, and multiethnic fraternal people to consolidate physical and mental efforts to make material contributions to the supplementary education and cultural training movement. I call on teachers and instructors to jointly exert their mental efforts and knowledge to organize and direct the illiteracy eradication and cultural training movement for cadres, combatants, workers, and multiethnic people and to strive to register new achievements to welcome the International Year of Illiteracy Eradication in 1990.

Last of all, on the occasion of this international new year, I extend my best wishes, affection, and warm greetings to cadres, teachers, combatants, workers, and fraternal people. I wish you all good health so that you can actively contribute to the brilliant success of the illiteracy eradication and cultural training movement. Thank you.

Philippines

Press Secretary Comments on Gates Visit

HK1901104590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III assailed an article published in THE NEW YORK TIMES and WASHINGTON POST stating that the visit to the country by Robert Gates, President Bush's deputy assistant for national affairs, is aimed at restoring order to a troubled Philippines. Tanny Rodriguez has the details:

[Begin recording] Gomez said that the report was only fabricated by rightist elements in the State Department and the public relations firm of [name indistinct] in Washington, DC. The press secretary stressed that Congressman [name indistinct] has denied one of the suppositions on Gates' visit here, which was to allegedly request the holding an election soon. Gates' purpose in coming to the Philippines was only to show that the United States was never a part of the recent coup d'etat and to give assurance that his country has no plan to reduce its financial assistance to the Philippines by 5 percent, Gomez added. [end recording]

Aquino Urged to Cancel U.S. Bases Talks

HK1601050590 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 16 Jan 90 pp 1, 8

[With a report from Johanna Son]

[Text] Senator Neptali Gonzales yesterday urged President Aquino not to enter into talks with the Americans on the future of U.S. military facilities if Washington fails to honor its obligations under the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement [MBA].

"Why should we begin talks, whether exploratory or substantial, when there appears to be a violation of an obligation under a binding international agreement?" Gonzales said in yesterday's Kapihan sa Maynila [Manila Coffee] forum.

The Department of Foreign Affairs [DFA] had earlier expressed concern that the U.S. Government might fail to deliver on its commitments in the agreement signed in October 1988 by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and then U.S. secretary of state George Shultz because of budgetary constraints.

But Gonzales said that while he would acknowledge the budgetary difficulties of the U.S., "this is an international commitment and an international commitment must always be complied with, especially in the light of upcoming talks."

Manglapus will summon U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Platt to personally convey to him Philippine Government's concern about Washington's non-compliance with its commitments.

The Manglapus-Shultz memorandum of agreement covers the last two years of the 1947 bases accord. Under the agreement, the White House would exert "best efforts" to obtain from Congress $962 million in assistance for fiscal years 1990 and 1991.

Asked how he interpreted "best efforts," Gonzales said these have always been considered "obligations." Moreover, he said the U.S. executive branch has "never failed to get from Congress" legislation previously promised.

Platt told reporters last week his Government is working within a "very tight" budget situation, hinting at U.S. difficulty in delivering $481 million in security, development and commodity assistance for fiscal year 1990.

Whether or not talks will be delayed as a result of the U.S. failure to honor its commitments would require "presidential decision," a DFA source said, adding that the advantages and disadvantages of such a move will have to be weighed carefully.

The current agreement expires on Sept. 16, 1991 and any notice of termination should be given a year before by the Philippine Government. Failure to do so would result in an automatic extension of the pact for at least one more year.

President Aquino had expressed her desire to start exploratory talks on the bases in March or April. She said over the weekend the Government will raise the matter of U.S. compliance to the 1988 agreement when the talks begin.

The areas of concern include the U.S.' failure to press for the exemption of Philippine products from the Berry Amendment which requires U.S. bases overseas to buy only U.S. made goods; the convening of panels on Aids prevention and veterans' claims, and reduction of Economic Support Fund budgets.

A ranking official at the foreign office also said Washington's fulfillment of its pledges will be taken into consideration by the Government when it decides on when exploratory talks regarding the fate of the bases will begin.

"The way the Americans implement the agreement should be taken into consideration, otherwise what are agreements for?" the official asked.

He added that the Philippines expects the state department to "work on" the U.S. Congress for a supplemental budget that will include Manila. The budget is taken from unused appropriations.

Sources said the move to summon Platt was made during a meeting last week of the committee tasked to monitor the implementation of the 1988 bases agreement. It was the same committee which saw that except for the rapid disbursement of money appropriated for the Economic Support Fund for 1989-1990, the rest of the agreements had not been met by the Americans.

No definite date has been set for Platt's call on Manglapus, according to sources, because the schedules of both officials have not been matched.

At yesterday's Kapihan, Gonzales said the U.S. failure to give to Government the budgetary support portion of the Economic Support Fund (ESF) would mean a P5.6 billion reduction in the expected revenues this year of P180.5 billion.

"That's big," said Gonzales, who is chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance and president of the ruling coalition Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats] The total ESF allocation is $320 million.

If this happens, Gonzales said the Government would either have to cut down on expenditures or increase its budgetary deficit, originally estimated at P17.5 billion by yearend.

But beyond that (financial implications), we should not start any negotiations for the renewal of the MBA sapagkat ang nakataya ay ang kanilang [because what is at stake is their good faith] and capacity to comply with the terms of an agreement," Gonzales stressed.

Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile, who was also at the Kapihan, said the U.S.' failure to comply with the amended accord only means that "the Aquino Government's open option policy is becoming illusory."

Manglapus is attending a meeting today in Malacanang where a more definite date of the start of exploratory talks is expected to be discussed by the President's Committee on the Bases. The replacement of Ambassador Loonides Caday in the Philippine panel may be announced after the meeting, sources said.

Director-General Raul Rabe of the American Affairs office will take Caday's place, sources added.

Rabe, 50, was Deputy Chief of Mission in Washington before he was called to serve as head of the American Affairs Office here. He was consul-general in Honolulu from 1984-1986 and minister-counselor in Washington from 1982-1984. Specializing in economic affairs, Rabe assisted the Philippine panel in the 1983 bases review. He also took part in preparations for the 1988 review in his capacity as second highest ranking official in the Philippine embassy in Washington.

At the same time, another source quoted Philippine Ambassador to the U.S. Emmanuel Pelaez as saying the Government should assess the extent to which Washington would be willing to meet higher demand in exchange for the retention of the bases, considering American budgetary constraints.

While U.S. President George Bush had indicated his opposition to a proposal by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev regarding naval force reductions, cuts in defense and foreign assistance appropriations could affect the U.S. willingness to keep Subic Naval Base, the source said.

On the other hand, Pelaez, according to the source, pointed out that in view of the dramatic changes which took place in Eastern Europe and the reductions in conventional forces, whether or not cuts in U.S. forces in the Philippines would follow will have to be studied.

Pelaez, according to the source, said the U.S. has always been proud of being a naval power and that its ability to project naval forces overseas will determine whether it can maintain this stature. This indicates the U.S. would attach more primacy to Subic than Clark Air Base.

When asked about his own assessment, a rank official said a 1988 U.S. pentagon study showed that should Clark and Subic be closed down, it would cost Washington only $7 billion to redeploy forces or upgrade existing bases overseas. This amount would be much less compared to what it would cost the Americans to meet Philippine demands for a minimum compensation level of $1.2 billion for another five years. Including compensation for 1990-1991, the total amount would reach $8.4 billion, the source quoted Americans as saying.

Pelaez had recommended that the Philippines should try to explore the Soviet market and seek to intensify cultural exchanges also with other Eastern bloc nations, in view of the changes taking place in that part of the globe.

These efforts, however, should be without prejudice to Philippine efforts to increase access to the U.S. market

which accounts for almost $1 billion of the nation's total international trade, Pelaez said.

Japan Viewed as Pressure Source on Bases Issue

HK1501090790 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 15 Jan 90 p 12

[By reporter Rachel E. Khan]

[Text] Pressure to retain the U.S. military facilities in the country may not come from the Americans but from the Japanese, indicated a study by University of the Philippines School of Economics Associate professors Ms. Socorro Gochoco and Ruperto Alonzo.

In their paper entitled, "Cooperation and Competition Between Japan and the U.S: Possible Impacts on the ASEAN Region," the economics professors said, "Giving aid to the Philippines in exchange for the bases may be a cheaper alternative than increasing Japanese defense expenditures beyond (its) limit of 1% of Japan's GNP."

With a smaller defense budget relative to its GNP, Japan is "getting pressure from the U.S. to share in the costs of maintaining regional and world peace," the study indicated.

Security Interests

Arrows of Japanese security interests in the region point to the maintenance of the U.S. military bases in the Philippines because they contribute directly to the security and economic well-being of Japan, the study said.

It pointed out the U.S. ships responsible for protecting oil tankers in the Gulf, and on which Japan and the rest of the West are so heavily dependent on for their oil needs, are serviced by the Subic Naval Base. Noting the importance of energy resources in production, the protection of the Gulf alone is enough incentive for "Japan, South Korea and the other ASEAN countries (to) see that it is in their interest the U.S. military facilities remain" here.

Cooperative Stance

Meanwhile, despite a "perceived sense of competition" between the United States and Japan in their trade and investment relations with each other, their common strategic interests in the Asia-Pacific region would "prod" them to "take a cooperative stance in dealing with the different countries in the region," the study noted.

In looking at the ties of the two developed nations, the paper pointed out the existence of a continual oscillation felt especially in the mid-80s between cooperation for strategic reasons and competition for economic reasons.

To illustrate, the paper cited the growing protectionist sentiments in the U.S. especially against Japan which, in 1988, accounted for 40% of the total U.S. trade deficit.

The appreciation of the Japanese yen also resulted in a greater inflow of Japanese tourists and equity capital into America. The economic events induced former Japanese Prime Minister Yasohiro Nakasone to appeal to his people to increase their consumption of American products.

Major Role

Japan will be "playing an increasingly major role" in the Asia Pacific region especially in the developing countries, the paper said. The unprecedented current account surpluses of Japan in the recent and coming years, said the Gochoco-Alonzo study, will prompt the recycling of these surpluses by increasing imports and investments abroad.

"If Japan recycles these to developing countries, it will not only be beneficial to the recipient countries, it will also further enhance Japan's role as a political and economic power in the world and perhaps blunt some of the criticism Japan receives for having trade imbalances in its favor vis-a-vis countries like the U.S."

Finally, the paper noted, "there are those who believe the U.S. will try to persuade Japan to hasten its participation in a mini-Marshall plan for the Philippines in an effort to keep the U.S. military facilities in the Philippines."

Article Estimates Sales Losses to U.S. Bases

HK1501082990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 15 Jan 90 pp 1, 8

[By Juan V. Sarmiento Jr]

[Text] Businessmen in the Philippines, already faced with an economic slowdown, will lose at least $30 million (P674 million) in foregone sales to U.S. military bases in Japan, South Korea and Diego Garcia because of the failure of the U.S. Congress to waive for the Philippines the Berry Amendment to the 1990 U.S. Defense Appropriations Act.

The amendment requires U.S. bases overseas to purchase only U.S.-made goods.

Specifically, it prohibits the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) "from using appropriated funds on articles which are not domestic (American) end-products except small purchases not exceeding $10,000."

The failure of the U.S. Congress to waive the amendment defeats provisions in the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement (MBA) of October 17, 1988 expanding the use of Philippine products by U.S. forces.

The MBA expires in 1991. Meanwhile, the U.S. Congressional move has prompted Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus to write U.S. State Secretary James Baker III asking him to fulfill U.S. commitments on the purchase of Philippine products for the U.S. bases' use.

The Foreign Service Institute [FSI] of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), citing a report of Juanita Amatong, a member of the Philippine panel which negotiated with the U.S. said the procurement program under the 1988 agreement will generate an additional $80 million for the Philippines.

This amount consists of $50 million in additional procurement of Philippine products by U.S. military facilities in the country and $30 million in new procurement by other U.S. bases in the Pacific.

The expanded procurement by U.S. bases in the Pacific is only "possible by waiving the balance of payments program requirement and the provision of the Berry amendment," said FSI.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Richard L. Armitage said U.S. base authorities purchased about $218 million in 1987.

The Regional Desk for the Americas of the Bureau of Export Trade Promotion said the purchases of Subic Naval Base, Clark Airbase and the Manila acquisition office of the U.S. DOD [Department of Defense] amounted to $216,303,295 in 1988.

These include food, drinks, utilities service contracts, construction contracts, equipment and other materials.

Leo Lim, assistant director of the American Affairs Office of the DFA told PHILIPPINE NEWS AND FEATURES that the Berry amendment has been in effect since 1942 and acts like a "flag law" that protects U.S. manufacturers.

Exempting the Philippines from this amendment, Lim said, would allow the U.S. bases in the country to acquire more local goods.

Meanwhile, the failure of the U.S. Congress to exempt the Philippines from the Berry amendment has caused disappointment among Filipino businessmen.

Jose Pardo, president of 7-Eleven and vice president for trade of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) said this development is "a source of disappointment particularly now because we're trying to recover lost ground" as a result of the December 1 coup attempt.

The PCCI official said local companies which want to export competitive construction materials to U.S. bases in the Pacific would be greatly affected.

Pardo said PCCI could "make representations" with a special American ambassador who will visit the Philippines early this year to discuss trade and investment issues so the U.S. can reallocate funds for the Philippines to cover foregone revenues for Philippine companies.

Aquino Cites International Faith in Government

HK1501073190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Jan 90 p 1, 8

[Text] International faith in the Aquino Government continues despite the last coup attempt, President Aquino yesterday quoted a recent United States survey as saying.

Speaking before the annual New Year's luncheon for the diplomatic corps, Mrs Aquino expressed confidence that the Filipino people themselves will work with Government to stave off further mutinies.

She said there was every reason to be optimistic despite the aborted coup of Dec. 1-7, the sixth and bloodiest during her term.

The U.S. survey, conducted on Jan. 7-9 by a respected American research company, showed that 43% of the redspondents thought that things will get better in the Philippines over the next three years, 32% thought the situation will stay the same, and only 20% thought things will get worse, Mrs Aquino said in her speech.

The President said the survey showed the Philippines still outranked "a surprising number of our neighbors" as a preferred investment site and was a "respected fourth" in Asia as a preference of tourists.

Mrs. Aquino gave no further details on the survey Malacanang officials said the complete report will be released soon.

She said the survey showed that "the outside world is not pessimistic about the Philippines as some reports would have us believe."

"We respect reliable surveys," she said. "We respect even more our people and our friends."

"Some of you represent governments that in the 1980s experienced and foiled coup attempts five, six, seven years after the restoration of constitutional freedom," she said. "As we begin our fifth year, we can look forward like the multiplying number of newly restored democracies of the world to many long years of domestic stability."

Mrs Aquino said her Cabinet during the last crisis, joined prayers with action so that the diplomatic corps "may not be the victims of the latest armed battle for the survival of democracy."

"I say the latest. Do I mean more are coming?" she asked.

"Not necessarily. There will be no more if this government succeeds, and it will succeed, in resuming for a forward march of our political, social and economic programs.

"There will be no more if the people will have their way...not to leave Government alone to take all the initiatives in a crisis."

Sizing up the effects of the last coup attempt, Mrs Aquino vowed to reconstruct the economy and maintain a hardline stance against putschists and their civilian cohorts.

At the reception line, Mrs Aquino gave passing commendations to new National Bureau of Investigation director Alfredo Lim and acting Immigration and Deportation commissioner Andrea Domingo for their moves to close in on civilian suspects in the last mutiny.

She gave Lim a "very good" mark for recommending to the justice department the filing of rebellion charges against Marcos Lawyer Rafael Recto and four others who were caught by a television camera entering the rebel-held government television station PTV [People's Television]-4 on the first day of the coup try.

Domingo got the President's approval for putting on an "informal watchlist" Senate minority floorleader Juan Ponce Enrile and other individuals charged by the justice department with rebellion.

Mrs Aquino also thanked the diplomatic corps for their statements of support to her Government during the last coup attempt.

The statements, she said, "reassured our people that there was an important world out there, standing by us in support of the legitimacy of our democracy."

She also thanked countries which offered "aid in action," apparently referring to the the U.S. which deployed its air force jets at Clark Air Base for persuasion flights.

Ambassador Comments on Trade Talks With Bloc

HK1901044190 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0300 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] The Philippines is currently holding negotiations with Poland, Czechoslovakia, and East Germany to discuss the expansion of trade relations with these countries. According to Ambassador Rafael Gonzalez, maintaining trade relations with these countries is now easier because their economies are now in order. Gonzalez is the Philippine ambassador to the three countries. He refused to elaborate on the negotiations, but it is suspected they have something to do with the country's trade deficit. In this case, this means that the Philippines' imports are higher than its exports to these three countries.

Manglapus Says Troops May Go to Cambodia

HK1901045790 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 19 Jan 90 pp 1, 8

[By staff writer Julius Fortuna]

[Text] The government is inclined to send Filipino combat troops to Cambodia as part of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in that country torn by civil war.

This was disclosed yesterday by Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus after receiving word that the UN Security Council agreed in New York to work for a cease-fire between the Cambodian government and the Khmer Rouge.

In a press briefing, Manglapus said the Filipino combat troops would be like the Philippine Expeditionary Force to Korea (Peftok) during the Korean War, indicating they would be armed.

He said, however, that the final decision on whether to send troops to Cambodia would depend on an "all-ASEAN" agreement, that is, if other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations agree to the plan. ASEAN groups the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei and Singapore.

Manglapus said the Philippine government will endorse the plan to other ASEAN members. "If what is being discussed is an international peace-keeping force—whether or not there would be an ASEAN component—this department would recommend favorably the adoption of such a proposal," he said.

Without going into details, Manglapus said the troop deployment, if ever, would not be like the noncombatant Philippine Civic Action Group (Philcag) sent to Vietnam in the mid-1960s.

Manglapus recalled that the idea of sending troops to Cambodia was broached two years ago by ASEAN members. "We were ready to go along with that. We still are," he said.

Over 5,000 Filipino combatants were sent to Korea from 1950 to 1953 to fight against the North Korean Army and the Chinese Volunteer Army.

The Philcag was sent to Vietnam as part of the country's commitment to the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization.

The Cambodian civil war has intensified, with the Khmer Rouge and the forces of Prince Norodom Sihanouk now holding sizeable territories abandoned by forces of the Vietnamese-backed Cambodian government.

Reports have it that Khmer Rouge has established shadow governments in its captured territories as well as in the capital city of Phnom Penh.

The UN Security Council—composed of the United States, the USSR, China, France and Britain—has agreed to help hold peaceful elections in Cambodia to prevent further bloodshed.

Coup Threat, Marcos U.S. Court Case Linked

HK1501075790 Manila PHILIPPINE NEWSDAY in English 15 Jan 90 pp 1, 2

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga yesterday said political stability remains the country's number one problem and warned that "unless we can achieve substantial reunification of the Armed Forces, we may be living from one coup to another."

Salonga made the point during a dialogue with members of media at his residence in Pansol, Laguna, attended by Presidential Spokesman Adoll Azcuna and Press Secretary Tomas Gomez.

He made the statement in the course of asking the two Malacanang officials what steps the Executive was taking to address the problem in the Armed Forces. Neither Azcuna nor Gomez gave a substantive reply.

"You cannot govern the country without the military establishment. You cannot have political stability without the military establishment," Salonga said.

In addition to the fragmentation of the Armed Forces, Salonga expressed fear that if no negotiated settlement was reached in the cases against Mrs Imelda Marcos in the U.S. "anything could happen, including a coup attempt," between now and March 13th, the date of the hearing of racketeering charges against Mrs Marcos in New York.

Salonga said that sometime after the failed December coup and before Christmas, a meeting was held in San Jose, California relative to the proposed plea-bargaining on the charges against Mrs Marcos.

Present in that meeting, according to Salonga, were Mrs Marcos, her lawyer John Barkto, Presidential Commission on Good Government Chairman Mateo Caparas, lawyer Ted Laguatan and Frank Labella of the U.S. Department of Justice.

It was proposed in that meeting that Mrs Marcos plead guilty to two out of four charges, namely mail fraud and obstruction of justice, which carry a maximum sentence of 10 years.

Provided she restores the sum of $650 million in the New York suit, said Salonga, the judge would then be free to inflict a lesser penalty which could run from one to two years to a suspension of sentence.

Deadline for this is Monday (Tuesday in Manila), Salonga said.

Until yesterday, Salonga said there was no indication Mrs Marcos would agree to the proposal.

Gomez supported Salonga saying that from his information the other members of the Marcos family were agreeable to the proposal, but that Mrs Marcos was opposed.

In reply to a question, Salonga said that if Mrs Marcos entered into a plea-bargain and the judge ultimately suspended sentence, she should be able to come home to the Philippines. "Personally I don't think it will be a threat to our national security," he said.

In the same free-wheeling session, Salonga revealed that former Justice Secretary Sediecy Ordonez had asked President Aquino not to submit his name to the Commission on Appointments for any position as a protest against the President's decision requiring undersecretaries and assistant secretaries not only in the Department of Justice to resign.

Ordonez had been offered a choice of positions between the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, vacated upon the death of Claudio Teehankee Jr., and the Chairmanship of the Commission on Elections, vacated by Hilario Davide Jr., chairman of the fact-finding commission on the failed December coup.

Ordonez had earlier indicated preference for the UN post, according to Salonga, but changed his mind upon hearing the President's pronouncement on undersecretaries and assistant secretaries.

Firing these people, Ordonez reportedly told Mrs Aquino, would have a "chilling effect" on the civil service, since these are mostly career people who had risen from the ranks.

Salonga asked Azcuna and Gomez what was the actual status of Ordonez, but neither could give an authoritative reply. Ordonez remains connected with an ad hoc committee related to the Bataan nuclear power plant. But reports indicate that he has gone down to his bailiwick in Nueva Ecija to report to his political leaders the "unfair treatment" he got in the latest Cabinet reshuffle.

De Villa Hails Coup Leader Bibit's Arrest

HK1501132190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 15 Jan 90

[Text] General Renato de Villa, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chief of staff, today described the arrest of Lieutenant Colonel Billy Bibit, one of the leaders of the recent coup, as a big blow to the rebel soldiers who want to mount a new coup against the current government. According to De Villa, the military considers Bibit as one of the 15 most wanted coup leaders, whose arrest carries a reward of 500,000 pesos. Bibit is a retired constabulary lieutenant colonel and is a former head of the Customs Intelligence and Investigations Division.

Along with other rebel soldiers, Bibit reportedly led in ransacking the warehouse of the Bureau of Customs where high powered firearms confiscated by the Customs in its antismuggling campaign were hidden. The rebel leader was arrested by National Bureau of Investigations agents in his Taguig hideout.

According to De Villa, the military expects more arrests to follow as a result of a widespread manhunt initiated by the AFP units, especially the National Capital Region Defense Command under Brigadier General Rodolfo Biazon.

De Villa Warns Rebel Officers Seeking Support

HK1601052590 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa has warned against a renewed attempt by rebel military officers to win the support of the soldiers. De Villa issued the warning at the graduation exercises of some 558 candidate soldiers at Capinpin, Tanay, Rizal, home of the Armed Forces Training Command. De Villa urged anew [words indistinct] to the vigilance against attempts by rebel forces to convince them to join another coup.

De Villa Approves Investigation of 21 Officers

HK1501130890 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 14 Jan 90 pp 1, 19

[By Roy C. Sinfuego]

[Text] Gen. Renato de Villa, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), approved yesterday the recommendation of the AFP special investigation committee for the pre-trial investigation of 21 military officers accused of participation in the Dec. 1 failed coup d'etat.

The pre-trial investigation is conducted prior to the formal court-martial proceedings to facilitate the prosecution of a case filed against members of the AFP. It can be likened to the preliminary hearing conducted by the state prosecutor in a criminal case.

The recommendation was made by Brig. Gen. Hermogenes Peralta, AFP inspector general, following the committee's taking of testimonies of a total of 199 independent civilian witnesses interviewed by the probers.

Brig. Gen. Jose Comendador and Brig. Gen. Marcelo Blando top the list of the rebel officers who will undergo pre-trial investigation.

Comendador was the chief of the Air Force's Second Air Division based in Mactan, Cebu, while Blando was the commander of the Army's Scout Ranger Regiment who joined forces with the Marines in attacking Villamor Air Base and Camp Aguinaldo.

Others to face pretrial investigation are Navy Capt. Danilo Pizzaro, Navy Capt. Manuel Ison, Col. Luisito Sanchez, Marine Lt. Col. Remelino Gojo, Army Lt. Col. Artemio Tecson, Army Lt. Col. Rafael Galvez, PC [Philippine Constabulary] Lt. Col. Tiburcio Fusillero, Marine Maj. Cesar de la Pena;

Army Maj. Leovino Valencia, Capt. Florencio Flores, Capt. Benigno Junio, Air Force Captains Elmer Amon and Vergel Nacino, Army Lt. Col. Jacinto Ligot, PC Lt. Col. Franklin Brawper. Maj. Alfredo Olivares and Air Force 1st Lt. Joey Sarroza.

The above-mentioned military officers are charged with:

1. Violation of Article of War No. 67 (mutiny).
2. Violation of Article of War No. 94 in relation to Articles 6 and 248 of the Revised Penal Code (multiple murder and frustrated murder).
3. Violation of Article of War No. 96 (conduct unbecoming of an officer and a gentleman).

The last three Air Force officers charged, Captains Amon and Nacino and First Lieutenant Sarroza, were the pilots of the T-28 "Tora Tora" planes that bombed Malacanang, Camp Aguinaldo, Camp Crame and TV stations Channel 4 and 9 during the coup.

The AFP special investigation committee, headed by Peralta, is composed of senior investigating officers from the four major services of the AFP.

Rebel Soldiers Group Now 'Political Movement'

HK1501083390 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 15 Jan 90 p 9

[By staff member Manny Mogato]

[Text] Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Renato S. de Villa yesterday said the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM), which spear-headed a series of coup attempts to topple the Aquino Government, has transformed into a political movement and no longer a reform-oriented military organization.

He said the movement has even changed the original RAM acronym into a more militant "Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance]," to emphasize its shift into a political group.

The military said leaders of the movement have begun using the new meaning for the RAM acronym after the Government crushed last December coup attempt by mutinous soldiers.

A letter allegedly sent by rebel leader Navy commodore Domingo Calajate to the military leadership explaining why he joined the rebel forces had on the stationary the new meaning of the RAM acronym, de Villa told reporters.

"That letter would indicate that they were no longer working for reforms within the military but they were now working for changes in society and in government," de Villa added.

The military said the RAM has been transformed into a broad alliance of anti-government Right-wing forces seeking to overthrow the Government through violent means.

Meanwhile, the rebellious Young Officers Union (YOU) has vowed to continue its fight to bring down the

Government, saying an election "would never be a solution to the growing socio-economic and political problems of the state."

"Elections would only be like taking pills to relieve the pain," a spokesman for the underground military movement said. "Pain relievers do not cure the disease, a surgical operation to remove cancer would be better even if that would be bloody."

The YOU, which surfaced after the August 28, 1987, failed coup, has expressed support to a federal form of government which the rebel soldiers planned to set up should they succeed in toppling President Aquino.

They claimed that they do not rule out violence in taking over Government since killings normally happen even in a peaceful transition process like elections.

"The number of people that were killed during the last coup attempt would remain low compared to the number of people killed by the New People's Army (NPA) in their bid to overthrow the Government through the same method," the union spokesman who requested anonymity said. He also claimed the number of people killed in the last coup was not far from the figures of casualties in an election.

"We are not changing the system of government, we only wanted good government," the union spokesman said.

But a senior military official said the rebel soldiers were only using "reforms" to cover for their grand design to grab power through violent means.

He also said politicians who would be installed by the rebel soldiers in a self-style government they would set up would only be used as a "cosmetics."

"They would eventually grab power from these politicians or they would be running the show behind these people," the senior official said.

Coup Investigators Ask To Probe Bank Accounts

HK1601052390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Text] The Davide Commission will formally ask the Monetary Board's permission to investigate the bank accounts of suspected financiers of the latest coup. This move falls under the expanded authority granted to the coup body in a law approved by Congress and signed by President Aquino. Yesterday two military officials, Capital Regional Command Chief Alexander Aguirre and Visayas Command Chief Renato Palma, appeared before the commission. According to Aguirre, the renegade soldiers could have received support from foreign sources because of the expensive communications equipment and firearms which they used. Brigadier General Palma said there are indications that the rebel soldiers who seized the Mactan airport received sufficient funds and equipment. He further said that renegade Air Force General Jose Comendador threatened to blow up all the airplanes stationed at the airport at that time.

Former PC Rebel Officer Arrested in Manila

HK1901093790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Excerpt] Another rebel officer was arrested by government troops in the parking area of the Greenhills commercial complex at 1000 this morning. The rebel officer was identified as former Philippine Constabulary officer Pacifico Avenido, who took part in the August 1987 and December 1989 coup attempts. [passage omitted]

Foreign Arms Said Shipped to Rebel Soldiers

HK1501083790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Jan 90 pp 1, 12

[By Wilma N. Yamzon]

[Text] Military authorities said yesterday they are looking into reports that a number of foreign ships which passed Philippine waters a few months before the Dec. 1-7 coup attempt could have supplied guns to rebel forces.

A Philippine Navy (PN) intelligence officers said the Navy received reports of arms landing in various parts of the country, but failed to check them because of lack of resources such as patrol boats and other equipment to tighten security along the country's coasts.

"The Philippines has one of the longest coastlines in the world, four times longer than that of the United States. The Navy needs many boats and men to carry out its mission in guarding the country's waters effectively," he said.

The official, who requested anonymity, said arms suppliers are using three points of entry to unload modern weapons and equipment in the country—Poro Point in La Union, Zamboanga in the South, and Cavite, south of Manila.

He said the Navy has a list of suspected foreign ships smuggling guns into the country, but refused to reveal their names "because information is still raw."

He said the Navy District (ND) II under Commodore Antonio Empedrad, for instance, monitored ships entering Manila Bay and Cavite on suspicion of gun smuggling from December 1988 to last November.

ND II officials, however, said "it is believed that foreign ships rendezvous with boats a few kilometers from the shores in remote areas and transfer the arms into smaller craft."

Early last year, Rear Admiral Carlito Cunanan, Navy chief, admitted that the Navy lacks the capability to patrol the country's coastlines because of limited fleet and men.

However, Cunanan said the Navy's modernization program in four to five years will help boost its counter-infiltration operations and check criminality at sea such as piracy and arms smuggling.

Early last week, defense and military officials confirmed reports that "foreign individuals" supported the rebel forces in the latest uprising, based on the type of guns surrendered by rebel soldiers to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Defense Undersecretary Leonardo Quisumbing said the defense department is still looking into reports that rebel soldiers received "modern weapons from abroad," including the "Sunburst weapon system" which discharges flares that attract heat-seeking missiles from aircraft and ships.

This equipment is not even in the inventory of the AFP, Quisumbing was quoted as saying.

Gen. Renato S. de Villa, AFP chief of staff, said on a television talk show over the weekend that modern guns used by the rebel soldiers were apparently smuggled into the country.

But he did not say whether the arms were smuggled into the country by ships through the "backdoor" in Mindanao.

Meanwhile, the Navy said more patrol teams are concentrating on guarding areas suspected as "smuggling zones," but it refused to specify the areas where it has intensified patrol operations.

Security Upgraded for Pampanga Mayors

HK1501080590 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 Jan 90 p 10

[By Jerry Lacuarta]

[Text] San Fernando, Pampanga—Constabulary authorities in Central Luzon ordered yestereday the tightening of security for Pampanga mayors who are marked for liquidation by the New People's Army (NPA) rebels.

Brig. Gen. Cesar P. Nazareno, Central Luzon PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary—Integrated National Police] regional commander, ordered more security aides and firearms for some mayors in Pampanga in the wake of reports that communist guerrillas have threatened to kill them.

Nazareno said the mayors will likewise be briefed on how to counter communist threats, urging them to "be extra careful and if possible, limit their movements." He said they "should not give the rebels any opportunity to hit them."

Nazareno told reporters that Mayor Nelson de la Cruz of Arayat town has reportedly "declared war" against the communist rebels during a recent meeting with the residents at barangay Kandating, Arayat.

The rebels issued earlier a statement saying they will hit five more Pampanga mayors due to their active roles in the counter-insurgency campaign. The mayors were also responsible for the formation of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGUs) in their respective localities.

Of the five mayors, only Angeles City Mayor Antonio Abad Santos was identified by a Aryel Miranda, spokesman of the Mariano Garcia Brigade (MGB), who signed the statement, copies of which were distributed to newsmen.

Abad Santos, who was included in the NPA hit list because of alleged "graft and corruption practices," is now being secured by Army troopers. His former bodyguards, mostly civilians, were disarmed for lack of qualifications to carry firearms.

Miranda said in the statement the MGB has claimed responsibility for the slaying Jan. 6 of Mayor Javier Hizon of Mexico, Pampanga. Killed with Hizon was his bodyguard, Pfc. Rogelio Hipolito. The killing of Mayor Hizon has been condemned by provincial and municipal officials led by Pampanga Gov Bren Z. Guiao.

Miranda said rebel assassination units will soon begin hitting American military officials and off-base patrols as part of a stepped-up campaign against U.S. presence in the country.

At least five American servicemen and civilian employee have been killed by rebels in Pampanga and Tarlac since 1987. Last year, NPA rebels also killed Col. James Rowe of the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG) in Quezon City.

Miranda said the planned rebel move is in retaliation for increasing U.S. intervention in the country, and for the alleged torture of captured MGB leader Fernando Suangco.

Suangco, who escaped from his military escort recently, was reportedly tortured by American intelligence agents while he was detained at a military camp here.

Lt. Col. Julius Yarcia, Angeles Metrodiscom [Metropolitan District Command] commander, said the strength of armed communist regulars in Pampanga was nearly decimated last year with the killing by the troopers of about 40 rebels in many encounters.

Quoting captured rebel documents, Yarcia said the rebels admitted their strength of 74 men in Angeles, Mabalacat, Porac, and Magalang towns had been down to 34 due to intensified military operations.

But Ka [Comrade] Joema Garcia, alleged rebel commander in eastern Pampanga, told Angeles City-based newsmen by two-way radio that the rebels "can be expected to renew its offensive against Filipino and U.S. targets to make up for a disastrous 1989 campaign."

Communists Promise 'Intense Military Offensive'

HK1501104790 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 15 Jan 90

[By Deo Macalma of Mobile Unit 7]

[Text] The New People's Army [NPA] will launch a bigger and more intense military offensive in 1990. This was revealed by Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger, of the NPA's Melito Glor Command in Quezon Province. Speaking in an interview, Comrade Roger also said that a provisional revolutionary government will be established this decade. The NPA has grown stronger, not weaker, as alleged by Brigadier General Alejandro Galido of the Southern Luzon Command.

Here is an excerpt of Comrade Roger's statement:

[Begin recording] The people's army in the past year has been occupied in training and studying. Contrary to statements by Galido, Wycoco, and Aglipay that it has grown weaker, the NPA in the region and the Melito Glor Command are prepared once again to take the lead in organizing and mobilizing the people and launching tactical offensive action. The raids on the Sampaloc Municipal Hall and on the 31st Infantry Battalion detachment in Antimonan, both taking place in Quezon Province, marked a new phase in the struggle in the region. They also produced 37 high-powered firearms for the people's army.

For the year 1990, the people's army and the Melito Glor Command promise to step up efforts to intensify the struggle in the region and to launch bigger and more effective military operations against all the enemies of the people. They will endeavor to support the strengthening of the National Democratic Front and the establishment of a provisional revolutionary government. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Comrade Roger also described last month's aborted coup d'etat by rebel soldiers as a scheme by the United States to maintain its military bases in the country. The failed coup attempt was also advantageous to the NPA because the Armed Forces have been weakened by internal fragmentation.

Here is Comrade Roger again:

[Begin recording] The coup d'etat directed by the U.S. imperialists was instigated to affirm that the Aquino government fully supports the maintenance of U.S. military bases in the Philippines. Its intent was to make sure that President Aquino will always support the presence of the military bases. At the same time, it served as a warning to Mrs Aquino that the minute she changes her stand or turns away from a position which favors the interest of the U.S. imperialists, the threat to remove her from power by any means available, be it through the use of elections or of force, will always be there. [end recording]

Clashes With NPA Reported in Different Areas

Offensive Launched in Quezon

HK1601045390 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 16 Jan 90 p 13

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Candelaria, Quezon—A command post of the rebel New People's Army (NPA) was strafed by Philippine Air Force (PAF) helicopters yesterday, killing and wounding an undetermined number of guerrillas, military authorities here reported.

Brig. Gen. Evaristo G. Carino, PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Recom [Regional Command] 4 chief, approved the offensive recommended by Col. Reynaldo G. Wycoco, Quezon Constabulary provincial commander, following information that the rebels were regrouping in the house of a retired U.S. Air Force pilot at the foot of Mt. Banahaw this province.

Elements of Task Force Hunter, Quezon PC provincial command, and the 237th and 231st PC companies joined the offensive, with air support from the 4th Air Support Force and the 15th Wing Strike Force from Sangley Point in Cavite City.

Col. Wycoco and Col. Miguel Fontanilla, Task Force Hunter commander, directed the operations. Five teams of PC soldiers led by Captains Manuel Barcena and Marce lo Garbo were dropped at barangay Masalukot here to compose the main force of the operations.

Wycoco informed Carino that the NPA Banahaw Command led by Leopoldo Mabilangan alias Ka [comrade] Hector was regrouping to attack the detachment of the 237th PC Company and CAFGU [Citizen Armed Forces Geographical Unit] at the foot of Mt. Banahaw in Mamala, Sariaya.

It was in Mamala that the four Army soldiers and a PC-Narcom [Narcotics Command] agent were released by the NPA group led by Gregorio Rosal in August, 1988.

Colonel Wycoco was left behind in Dolores, Quezon, where he met with officials to explain the big offensive launched against the communist rebels.

The teams of Captain Barcena and Captain Garbo were still in the area, and a radio message they sent said that before sundown yesterday, they expect to get to their target where some 75 NPA guerrillas were reported holed up.

Rebels Killed in Zamboanga

HK1901093390 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 18 Jan 90 p 8

[By Tony Rimando]

[Text] Pagadian City—Five New People's Army (NPA) rebels were killed while an undetermined number were

wounded during a 45-minute gun battle with Army soldiers last Tuesday in barangay Titik, Sindangan town, Zamboanga del Norte.

Brig Gen Cesar F. Fortuno, commanding general of the Army's 1st Infantry (Tabak) Division, said the soldiers led by Sergeants Corrales and Casfe of the 33rd Infantry Battalion recovered several assorted high-powered firearms, including a grenade launcher and an improvised backpack containing medicines from the slain dissidents.

Fortuno, in a report to Army chief Maj Gen Manuel Cacanando, said the government troopers were conducting patrol in the mountain village of Titik following intelligence reports of the presence of unidentified armed men when they encountered some 40 insurgents.

A running gun battle ensued, resulting in the killing of five rebels. The soldiers suffered no casualty, Fortuno said.

Clash in Camarines Sur

HK1601045190 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 16 Jan 90 p 13

[By R.C. Sinfuego]

[Text] Three rebels were killed by Constabulary troopers after a 20-minute firefight in barangay San Vicente, Bula, Camarines Sur, while a bulldozer owned by the provincial government of Negros Oriental was destroyed by rebels in sitio Busay, barangay Hilaitan, in Guihulgan, reports reaching Camp Crame yesterday said.

In the Bula encourter, PC [Philippine Constabulary] elements led by T/Sgt. Efren Bermundo and S/Sgt. Ciriaco Pacer of the 244th PC Company encountered heavily armed New People's Army (NPA) rebels in San Vicente, killing three men after a 20-minute exchange of fire.

The report identified two of the slain rebels as Ronnie Bertillo and Antonio Quingquing. The third rebel fatality was not immediately identified.

In Negros, NPA rebels attacked a government heavy equipment depot in sitio Busay and burned a bulldozer owned by the provincial government of Negros Oriental.

Top Muslim Rebel Arrested in Lanao del Sur

HK1901045190 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 19 Jan 90 p 7

[By correspondent Nash Maulana]

[Excerpt] Cotabato City—Constabulary troopers captured on Wednesday one of the three most wanted Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] leaders who allegedly killed three government negotiators on January 3 in Buldon, Maguindanao.

Sammy Guro, who allegedly planned to kill military officers by staging a false surrender, was captured by elements of the 455 PC [Philippine Constabulary] Company in Malabang, Lanao del Sur, military authorities here said.

Col. Wilfredo Villanueva, PC Recom [Regional Command] 12 commander, said charges of homicide and multiple murder were being readied against Guro.

Reports said military operatives captured Guro while he was visiting one of his wives.

Villanueva said he had also informed the relatives of the slain negotiators of the capture so that appropriate charges may be filed against Guro.

Brig. Gen. Orlando Soriano, chief of the 603rd Army Brigade, said the military hunt for Guro's two other comrades was still going on in the outskirts of Buldon, Barira and Matanog towns in Maguindanao.

The rebels reportedly planned to liquidate Soriano, Lt. Col. Gregorio Cordero, chief of the civil relations group in Region 12, and regional gubernatorial candidate Zacaria Candao, during the rites for their "surrender."

Earlier, Army troopers engaged in a gun battle a group of MNLF national security command (Nascom) believed led by Guro and Commanders Mubarak and Kadaffy.

The military said three successive encounters in Buldon left 13 rebels dead. It added that the offensive had so far resulted in the recovery of one of the two six-by-six trucks taken by the rebels on January 3, 20 assorted firearms and two hand-held radio sets. [passage omitted]

Cagayan Governor's Supporters Protest Suspension

HK1901054390 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 19 Jan 90

[By Baby Caleda for Philippine Broadcast Service News from Tuguegarao City, Cagayan Province]

[Text] According to a report from our correspondent Baby Caleda, while Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo has indicated that he would abide by the suspension order, he is also prodding his supporters to protest the return visit of Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos.

[Begin Caleda recording] Aguinaldo said that he would wait for the return of Secretary Santos at 1300 this afternoon. Santos is expected to oversee the assumption to office of Vice Governor Melvin Vargas as acting governor of Cagayan Province.

Despite Aguinaldo's suspension, reports says that he continues to campaign for his retention as governor and against Vargas' assumption of responsibilities. At the moment, his supporters have flocked to the Tuguegarao airport to wait for the arrival of Secretary Santos. They

are also gathered in front of the provincial capitol building as well as a hotel restaurant in Tuguegarao in support of Aguinaldo.

Meanwhile, Colonel Antonio Sierra, provincial commander of Cagayan, called on the protestors not to block the landing of Secretary Santos' airplane. He also promised not to break up the demonstrators as long as they carry out their protest action peacefully. No less than 2,000 persons are now gathered at the airport. [end recording]

Fishing Agreement Reached With Malaysia

HK1501125990 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 14 Jan 90 p 6

[By Jerry Esplanada]

[Text] The Philippines and Malaysia have agreed on a "common fishing ground" in disputed waters in the South China Sea, said the foreign office.

Rodolfo Severino, Philippine ambassador to Kuala Lumpur, said the other day that the two governments' panels have "unofficially" firmed up the area for joint use by Filipino and Malaysian fishermen.

"We are about to conclude a provisional arrangement" on the overlapping maritime boundaries, he told diplomatic reporters.

DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] insiders said Philippine and Malaysian authorities will formally sign the agreement shortly after next month's ASEAN-European Community ministers' meeting in Kuching (East Malaysia).

Earlier in a press briefing, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said "we are in the state where there are prospects for agreement on a common fishing ground."

He said, however, that during the fourth round of maritime talks between the two countries, "we're not able to thresh out the details."

The first and third round of maritime talks were held in the Malaysian capital last year. The Philippines hosted the second and fourth round of discussions.

During the talks, the Philippine panel (headed by Jorge Coquia, legal adviser of the Department of Foreign Affairs), proposed that no arrests should be made in the disputed area pending a resolution of the overlapping claims.

The Coquia panel also proposed that the disputed area be declared a common fishing ground for both countries.

According to members of the Philippine panel, the two countries failed to resolve the three issues which have strained the relations between Kuala Lumpur and Manila—the plight of some 300,000 to 350,000 Filipinos in Sabah; the protection of Filipino fishermen who venture into the disputed area; and Malaysia's alleged "material support" to the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front.

Meanwhile, reports reaching the foreign office said Malaysian authorities have expressed apprehension over the influx of illegal immigrants from the Southern Philippines.

Illegal crossings from Tawi-Tawi to any point in Sabah's 900-kilometer coastline take only five to eight hours.

'State of Calamity' Declared in Iloilo, Guimaras

HK1501113190 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 15 Jan 90

[From the "GMA News" program]

[Text] President Aquino today declared a state of calamity in the Province of Iloilo and the Subprovince of Guimaras where 10,000 families have been affected by the current dry spell. Reports said that almost 13,000 hectares of rice fields have been left idle due to the dry season.

Meanwhile, President Aquino said the government is doing everything it can to meet the farmers' need for a more adequate irrigation system in the Central Philippines.

Thailand

Reaction to Petition on Cambodia Factions Noted

Chatchai Welcomes Call

BK0101003180 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said somewhat ambiguously yesterday that he welcomed a call by 90 government and opposition MPs for an immediate end to the Thai military and strategic help to the Cambodian resistance coalition.

"The proposal is good because it shows that the Thai people want peace in Cambodia," Chatchai said. "But I wonder why the MPs have waited so long to make such a call."

The prime minister did not say whether he would accept the call, which observers regard as a rare move by Thai legislators to politicize an international issue.

"While we don't want to get involved in any other country's business, the situation (in Cambodia) affects our national security," he said.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, meanwhile, cautioned that major changes in Thailand's policy on Cambodia must be considered well before any decision can be made.

"We can't respond with an abrupt demand for a change," Sitthi told reporters.

The 90 MPs had submitted a letter to Chatchai urging the government to stop providing military support and sanctuary to recognized Cambodian resistance factions that form the UN-recognized Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

Minister Sitthi yesterday welcomed the report of the Soviet Union's withdrawal of its 14 MiG-23 jet fighters and some of its 16 Tu-16 Badger bombers from Vietnam's Cam Ranh Bay base.

He said the withdrawal would reduce regional tension and suspicions.

But he declined to comment on a proposal to send ASEAN peace-keeping troops to Cambodia to aid UN forces in overseeing a ceasefire before general elections are held in the war-torn country. [passage omitted]

Khmer Group Puzzled

BK1901015390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] One of the non-communist Cambodian resistance groups is puzzled by Thai MPs petitioning Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan for a shift in Thailand's Cambodian policy.

A Khmer People's National Liberation Front senior official also said the Front was concerned the move could send the wrong signals to the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh regime.

The official was commenting on a letter by 90 Government and Opposition MPs calling on the Government to change its policy and stop giving support or sanctuary to any of the Cambodian warring factions.

Mr Son Soubert of the KPNLF [Khmer People's National Liberation Front] said:

"We don't understand the move because Thailand has been friendly towards us and had even helped set up the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea [CGDK]."

Mr Soubert said the MPs might not entirely understand the question of Cambodia.

"Do the MPs want our people to be under another communist regime, or are they for the right for self-determination, free and fair elections for the Cambodian people?" he said.

He said the resistance was concerned the move could send a bad signal to Phnom Penh—that in the long run Phnom Penh could count on Thailand to pressure and suppress the resistance.

He also described the move as very untimely.

Another resistance source said that Prince Sihanouk was unlikely to react to the move. It did not represent the official stance of the Thai Government.

The source noted that Thailand has all along adopted the same position as ASEAN, which called for a comprehensive political settlement to the Cambodian problem.

The source compared the Thai MPs' move with the uproar of Western public opinion against the Khmer Rouge.

While public opinion came out strongly against the Khmer Rouge, Western governments still assured the resistance of support along the comprehensive settlement line, which called for a four-party interim administration for Cambodia and UN verification of the Vietnamese withdrawal.

"It's the same thing here. You have public opinion on one side and the official Government position on the other," he said.

China, the source said, would automatically halt arms supply to the resistance when there was proof Vietnam had withdrawn totally from Cambodia.

Meanwhile, an ASEAN diplomat said there was legal justification for Thailand providing sanctuaries for the Khmer resistance and allowing passage of arms from external sources to reach the resistance.

The principle of international law allowed certain leeways in which any country facing occupation by foreign forces could muster support from friendly countries.

ASEAN supports and recognises the UN-seated Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) and its struggle for independence and sovereignty against Vietnam.

Therefore, providing sanctuaries within, and allowing arms to flow through Thailand in response to calls from the legitimate resistance, would fall within the leeway, the diplomat said.

When ASEAN foreign ministers met in Bangkok in 1983, they had declared their support in every aspect for the CGDK, which automatically included Thailand's support in the form of sanctuaries and facilitating external supplies, he said.

Thai Officials Reportedly Welcome Paris Decision

BK1901021790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Thailand welcomed the United Nations Security Council's agreement for an enhanced role by the UN in resolving the Cambodian conflict, an informed Foreign Ministry source said yesterday.

The council's five superpowers agreed on this at a two-day meeting in Paris and issued a statement on Wednesday.

The statement was interpreted as the council's approval for an interim UN presence in Cambodia.

The source quoted Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi as saying yesterday that Thailand welcomed the statement.

The big powers common position on the Cambodian issue signified "progress in the principle of Cambodian settlement which Thailand regards as a positive sign towards progress," he was quoted as saying.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan also welcomed the council statement, saying the position was what Thailand really wanted.

Meanwhile, Vietnam also welcomed the move.

Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung told ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila that Vietnam was satisfied with the council statement, according to Foreign Ministry deputy spokesman Suraphong Chaiyanam.

ACM Sitthi was quoted as telling Mr Trung that ASEAN senior officials would meet on February 13 and 14 in Kuching, Malaysia, to review developments on the Cambodian issue, particularly the Australian proposal and the outcome of the superpowers' meeting.

ASEAN is expected to formulate a common position regarding both the Australian proposal and the security council's latest attitude towards Cambodia.

SRV Envoy Requests Expansion in Embassy Staff

BK1901021790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Jan 90 p 2

[Text] Newly-appointed Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Nguyen Trung yesterday asked Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila to allow an increase in the Vietnamese Embassy's diplomatic staff, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Suraphong Chaiyanam, deputy director-general of the Information Department, said the envoy raised a reciprocal expansion of embassy diplomatic staff during his first official call on Sitthi since his arrival here early this month. Sitthi pledged to consider his request, which would involve press and consular staff, Suraphong said.

Trung also briefed Sitthi of the outcome of meetings Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas held in Ho Chi Minh City with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Co Thach and Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen.

Trung said Hanoi wanted to see Thailand play a more active role in the Cambodian peace process and hoped the planned Kalarta informal meeting would result in constructive measures towards settlement of the conflict.

Sitthi was informed that Hanoi appreciated the statement issued by the permanent members of the UN Security Council in Paris this week that calls for an enhanced UN role in resolving the Cambodian problem.

Ministry Recommends New Vietnamese Policy

BK1801031390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Jan 90 p 8

[Text] The policy of isolating Vietnam is no longer in line with changing realities and a more cooperative course for mutual benefits should be adopted, the Foreign Ministry told the House Foreign Affairs Committee at a meeting yesterday.

A committee member, Nakhon Si Thammarat MP Sutham Saengprathum, said after the committee was briefed on Thailand's foreign policy that Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's vision of Indochina changing from a war zone into a marketplace should be realised sooner because the move spearheaded by ASEAN and the West to isolate Vietnam no longer fitted in with the changing situation.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said later that a solution to the Cambodian conflict was "near" and once a settlement was reached Thailand's relations with the Indochinese countries should return to normal.

Already many countries had contacted and traded with Vietnam he said.

ASEAN could cooperate with Indochina in terms of investment which had bright prospects as ASEAN had the technology while Indochina had labour and resources, said ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi.

Goods produced in Indochina could be reprocessed and reexported from ASEAN countries to the world market, he said.

"The atmosphere is getting better and so are our relations now that the Cambodia issue moves closer towards a solution," he said.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee and the Foreign Ministry also agreed to develop closer relations and cooperation between themselves.

MP Prasit Chaiwirattana was appointed to act as coordinator between the two bodies.

Mr Sutham said it was also considered that the committee, as a tool of the legislative branch, should be put to maximum use and should cooperate with the executive branch to protect national interests.

Mr Sutham said the committee also asked the Foreign Ministry about Thailand's decision on opening diplomatic ties with the state of Palestine.

The committee was told that the ministry was doing all it could for the country's best interests.

Vietnam

Spokeswoman Comments on Cambodia, Cam Ranh Bay

BK1901120690 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] A spokeswoman of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry held recently a press conference at the government guest house in Hanoi on Thursday [18 January]. Here are excerpts from the contents of the conference:

The spokeswoman, Mrs Ho The Lan, said that on January 14, 1990 in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and his Indonesian counterpart Ali Alatas exchanged views on ways leading to a solution to the Cambodian issue including the initiatives of Australian Foreign Minister Evans.

The Vietnamese emphasized that there are two short-term and long-term fundamental issues, mainly the mechanism of sovereignty in the transitional period and the role of the United Nations in a solution. There are also two long-term and fundamental problems which are to carry out general elections and that the neutrality of Cambodia must be linked toward the neutrality of Southeast Asia.

Indonesia can make practical contributions to the process of seeking a solution to the Cambodia issue. Mr Alatas agreed to consider Vietnam's suggestion and declared that there are grounds for convening another Jakarta informal meeting by late February 1990.

The Vietnamese spokeswoman welcomed and highly appreciated a recent statement of French President Francois Mitterrand and the French Foreign Ministry on the Cambodian issue, considering it constructive and practical.

Commenting on the recent meeting in Paris of the five UN Security Council members on the Cambodian issue, the spokeswoman welcomed the fact that the United States, the Soviet Union, China, France and Britain solve their differences regarding interim authority in the transitional period and entrust the UN with monitoring the general elections, a key issue in the implementation of the Cambodian people's right to self-determination. However, the spokeswoman said that in their communique, those countries have not yet made their attitude clear regarding the prevention of the danger of the Pol Pot genocidal clique rekindling the civil war and usurping power.

Cambodia is a sovereign country. To empower the UN to implement and supervise the implementation of the provisions of an agreement to be concluded on Cambodia must be based on respect for Cambodia's sovereignty and on the guarantee that the UN will not become a governing body or an occupationist army imposed on the Cambodian people. Such a possibility does not conform to the UN Charter either. The United Nations must be completely impartial, stop supporting one side against the other in Cambodia, cease its recognition of only one Cambodia side, and take up a resolute attitude against the genocidal Pol Pot clique in conformity with the UN convention on the crime of genocide.

On the report that the Soviet Union withdraw all the military forces from Vietnam, the spokeswoman affirmed that the Vietnamese territory has neither military bases nor foreign military forces, not even those of the Soviet Union.

Cam Ranh is a port in Vietnam. Vietnam allows Soviet ships to enter the port for logistic supply. Whether the Soviet Union will continued to utilize this logistic supply facilities at Cam Ranh is an affair of the Soviet Union.

Prisoners Exchanged With PRC for New Year

BK1901114490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1120 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Stemming from a humanitarian policy and in response to the aspiration of family reunions on the occasion of the Canh Ngo New Year [The Year of the Horse]—the traditional new year of the Vietnamese and Chinese people—representatives of the Vietnamese border defense post at the Huu Nghi border entry point, Lang Son Province, on 19 January handed over to representatives of the (Beng Tu) border defense post of China, at kilometer 0, five Chinese militiamen arrested by the Vietnamese armed forces. At the same time, the Vietnamese representatives received 17 Vietnamese released by the Chinese side. A Vietnam-based representative of the International Red Cross Association witnessed this event.

Press Reviews Labor Cooperation With USSR

BK1801095790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Jan 90

[Undated NHAN DAN article: "Vietnam-USSR Labor Cooperation Constantly Develops"]

[Text] On 15 December 1989, TASS carried an article about Vietnamese workers in the Soviet Union. The article says:

Of late, public opinion has paid a great deal of attention to the activities and work performance of Vietnamese workers in the Soviet Union. The issue here is to improve labor cooperation in this field, learn from experiences, and overcome weaknesses and shortcomings.

Furthering an agreement signed between the two governments, some 85,000 Vietnamese are now employed by 350 plants and enterprises in Moscow, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. In 9 years of labor cooperation, more than 16,000 Vietnamese have worked in the Soviet Union and then moved back to their country.

It is worth noting that as far as labor cooperation is concerned, the two sides have acted according to fine traditions based on inseparable friendship and close cooperation. The Soviet people have always expressed their solidarity with their fraternal Vietnamese counterparts and have a clear idea about Vietnam and its heroic people who love to work and show profound respect for the land of the October Revolution. It is for this very reason that all parties concerned have always shown honesty, enthusiasm, and mutual understanding in everything they have done.

As far as the work place is concerned, close cooperation has been achieved by all parties involved in implementing tasks related to party functions and labor and youth union activities. Also, the management boards of enterprises have shown due concern for the Vietnamese workers' employment situation and needs. As a result, there is every indication that everything has gone well in work and in other activities. All problems have been satisfactorily resolved. Vietnamese workers live in an easy, cordial atmosphere because their Soviet counterparts are familiar with the Vietnamese people's characteristics, moral ethics, and customs and because the guest workers can adapt themselves to life in the Soviet Union.

Vietnamese workers are very quick at learning how to do their jobs and at mastering complicated technology. As members of production groups, they have proven themselves to be very capable, highly productive, and very good at doing contractual work.

The labor cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, and Czechoslovakia is in the interest of all parties involved. As far as Vietnam is concerned, this labor cooperation has helped resolve the employment problem facing youths and has helped develop a contingent of skilled workers. At the same time, by bringing into play their physical strength, intelligence, and talents, Vietnamese workers have turned out a substantial amount of products and other material goods of value. In other words, they have greatly contributed to the host countries' economic development.

It goes without saying that our Vietnamese friends have every right to make use of their incomes as they see fit, spending their legitimately earned money on consumer goods and other things they and their families need.

However, it is worth telling the plain truth that in certain localities, there have been cases of failure to stay within set limits or misunderstanding about ways of life. As a result, there have been indications of rude treatment, goods shortages, and insane rumors. A number of Vietnamese workers were caught red-handed while engaging in speculation or committing other violations. As far as this issue is concerned, the comrade cadres in charge of personnel management at the Vietnamese Embassy in the Soviet Union said that the Vietnamese side would pay more attention to future personnel recruitment.

What is the future trend of development of this bilateral labor cooperation? According to the Soviet State Labor Commission, this cooperation is facing good prospects. From now on, as far as the trend of development is concerned, efforts will be made to promote direct cooperation between plants and enterprises on the basis of contractual work and mutual interests. This form of cooperation responds to the requirements of new conditions, economic accountability principles, and socialist enterprises' financial management procedures. As far as the size of the work force and the work place are concerned, regulations have already been promulgated by the Soviet side to determine which localities are allowed to recruit foreign guest workers.

Recently, in its appeal to the Soviet people, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee called on everyone to always set a good example of concern for community life, love for others, mutual understanding, and cooperation. The appeal is of important significance to those enterprises where Vietnamese workers live and work.

Paper Acclaims Lao Army on 41st Anniversary

BK1901110290 Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 19—Marking the 41st founding anniversary of the Lao People's Army (January 20), the army paper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today editorially acclaims its splendid exploits over the past decades.

The editorial also praises the close solidarity and friendship between the peoples and Armies of Laos and Vietnam, which, it says, have been constantly promoted in the new revolutionary stage.

In conclusion, it says that in face of the new situation and its new tasks, the Lao People's Army has step by step built itself into a modern regular army, standing ready to firmly defend the national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and the people's peaceful labour and contributing to peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Goals of Communist Party's Struggle Viewed

BK1901102390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 Jan 90

[Unattributed essay: "National Independence, Freedom, and Happiness for the Laboring People—the Goals of the Struggle of the Communist Party of Vietnam"]

[Text] On many occasions, President Ho Chi Minh said: For my whole life, there is only one goal—to struggle for the interests of the country and the happiness of the people. It was for this goal that sometimes I had to seek shelter in the mountainous areas, or had been sent to jail, or had to brave danger. Thanks to our national unity we were able to seize power, and then I was entrusted with the task of leading the government. Also because of this

goal, I had to worry day and night and exert my efforts and patience. Throughout my life I have only one desire, and that is the desire for national independence, freedom, and happiness for all the citizens, and an abundant life and good education for all the compatriots.

It is this lifetime goal of President Ho Chi Minh which is the goal of the struggle of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] and the Vietnamese communists. In February 1930, in an appeal made on the occasion of the founding of the CPV, Uncle Ho said: The party will provide guidance for the proletariat to lead the revolution in the struggle for the liberation of all of our oppressed and exploited brothers and sisters.

In the 1930-31 revolutionary movement, the Soviet administration was established in some localities in Nghe An and Ha Tinh Provinces. The first things ever done by the Soviet administration involved allocating public land to needy peasants and opening classes for eradication of illiteracy among the people.

In June 1945, prior to the general uprising, a liberated zone was formed in the six provinces of Cao, Bac, Lang, Ha, Tuyen, and Thai. In the liberated zone, a new social system began to take shape. In this zone, the property of the people was well protected, while all assets of the local bandits were confiscated to make public property or to distribute to the poor. Meanwhile, all essential democratic rights were exercised; taxes were eliminated; land rents were reduced; workdays were limited; and rich, poor, old, and young people competed with each other in undergoing training, in working, and in carrying out farmwork.

After the August Revolution, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam came into being. To bring about urgent and practical benefits for the people—first of all for workers and peasants—the new party-led state promulgated a labor law protecting the interests of workers and the laboring people, giving a 25 percent tax reduction to peasants, distributing land confiscated from French colonialists and their Vietnamese quislings, and reallocating public land to peasants.

In 1954, following the successful conclusion of the resistance against the French colonialist aggression, half of the country was liberated and entered a period of transition to socialism. The goals of the struggle for national independence and for the freedom, happiness, and well-being of the laboring people asserted by the Vietnamese communists at their Third National Party Congress in 1960 were to build socialism in the North and to fight for national unification.

When the anti-U.S. struggle for national salvation concluded, the entire country entered the initial stage of the transition to socialism. The entire superstructure and infrastructure of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam—which were built and led by the Communist Party—affirmed the need to rebuild the society and bring about genuine freedom, happiness, and well-being for the laboring people, including white and blue-collar workers.

Persistent in their goals, at the sixth party congress the Vietnamese communists pointed out: Organized by the working class and the laboring people into an organ of political power, our state—during the transitional period—is one of proletarian dictatorship that exercises the socialist system. Under the party leadership, the state has the function of institutionalizing through the law the rights, privileges, and duties of the laboring people.

At present, faced with complex and vigorous developments in the process of renovation in our country, the Vietnamese communists admitted that the multisectoral economic structure will continue to exist for a relatively long period of time. This was expounded in the party Central Committee's political report at the sixth party congress.

It is necessary to encourage the development of family economies, exploit the positive capabilities of the small-scale commodity economy, and make use of private capitalist economy and petty bourgeois economy in certain branches and trades along with efforts to refine them gradually through many forms of state capitalist economy as cited in the resolution of the sixth party congress. But politically and socially, the Vietnamese communists are determined not to allow the division of our society into two sides, with one side being a minority of well-to-do people or employers and the other being the majority of the exploited and oppressed employees. This was expounded in a speech by General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh at the closing of the party Central Committee's seventh plenum in August 1989.

We must struggle to bring about independence for the nation and freedom, happiness, and well-being for the laboring people. This political viewpoint of the Communist Party has become a raison d'etre of the various generations of Vietnamese communist fighters over the past 60 years. Any goals differing from this raison d'etre are alien to us, and certainly there will be no place for them in our political program of action or in our party organization.

Le Duc Anh Addresses Defense Ministry Meeting

BK1701091190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 10 Jan 90

[Text] As we have reported, on 9 January 1990 in Hanoi, the Ministry of National Defense held a cordial get-together of representatives of writers and artists within and without the Army to present awards for outstanding literary and art works dealing with the subjects of national defense and the Armed Forces in the 1984-89 period on the occasion of the 45th founding anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army. At this cordial get-together, General Le Duc Anh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense, expressed his views to the writers and artists. The contents of his speech follow:

Today, at this Defense Ministry-sponsored ceremony to present awards to outstanding literary and art works

dealing with the subjects of national defense and the Armed Forces for the 1984-98 period, I sincerely thank and am happy to meet here so many writers and artists who have developed close ties with combatants in our nation's long revolutionary undertaking. As a combatant, I would like to express some of my opinions:

Over the past thousands of years, our nation has experienced countless ups and downs and stalwartly struggled to survive and to gain and defend independence and freedom. A question arises as to what substance has created the wonderful strength with which generation after generation of people of all nationalities living in our beloved land of Vietnam has untiringly carried on so long and persistent a struggle replete with sacrifices, difficulties, and hardships, especially the recent fierce struggle that lasted for nearly half a century. In my opinion, the main substance that makes up that strength of our nation is love—love between two people, love for one's family, love for one's native place, love for the fatherland, and love among people sharing the same circumstances, objectives, and aspirations. Love has enabled each Vietnamese family and the entire Vietnamese nation to live happily in peace.

Our combatants compressed that ardent love, that great but simple desire, into a stalwart, durable, and resilient strength to counter ferocious and crafty enemies when they trampled on the fatherland's independence and on the people's freedom and happiness. During the recent fierce struggle that lasted for nearly half a century, our writers and artists, through numerous, differently formated works, succeeded in partially reflecting that love and desire, moved the hearts and souls of people both on the frontline and in the rearguard area, and enlightened even the misled, thus making a worthy contribution to the splendid victory of our Armed Forces and people. The fatherland, the party, the state, the Armed Forces, and the people acknowledge forever this meritorious service of our beloved writers and artists.

Aside from the achievements already recorded, I know writers and artists have not had sufficient time and conditions to devote all their hearts and minds to fully developing their talents in exploring the great, priceless heritage built up by our Armed Forces and people during the extremely difficult but glorious struggle under our party's banner. Thus they have not had the proper situation to produce valuable works for today's generations as well as for posterity, thus making their worthy contribution to the treasure of mankind's literature.

Another question that also arises here is why a small number of literary works, treating such a major subject of a period second in greatness to none in the nation's history, have little appeal to readers and, therefore, fail to attract their attention. Writers and artists themselves must, before anyone else, find the answser to this question. I may be wrong; but allow me, anyway, to voice my opinion about this.

First, love and the desire for freedom, as I has already mentioned, constitute a factor that generates strength and brings about victory. This factor is indestructible, and it exists forever in every person and in life. Nevertheless, I feel that a few works are too deficient in this regard. We are, in a way of speaking, shown by the author the view of a dried-up ancient tree which, though quite large, has lost too much of the sap of life.

Second, these works employ one-way speech. They offer only praises and simplify facts and even the souls and mentality of characters, thus failing to arouse the interest of readers who find them dull and lacking in things about which they want to know and learn. To win each victory we invariably have to go through difficulties, even sustain failures, and expend untold intelligence, energy, tears, blood, and bones. Only after having experienced a lot of pain and suffering can we afford to smile. The smile formed on the lips of the Vietnamese is priceless. The joy of victory, however, is marred by bitterness deep in our hearts as the wounds have not yet healed. Therefore, one-way speech which only praises, and the simplification of basically diverse and complicated facts, make one's works less appealing.

[Text] Third, these works still fail to profoundly describe the role of the masses. I have noted that in their works, many historians and writers or artists have described the party's leading role in a deferential, respectful manner. These works, however, only present a one-sided view and they touch more on right things rather than wrong ones. It is our party's concept that revolution is an undertaking of the masses. This is not only a theory but also a fact.

It is a pity that a number of historical and literary works have failed to fully and profoundly describe the role of the masses. As a result, when reading these works we have the feeling that revolution is imposed from top to bottom and that the masses are merely a passive force simply following that imposition. Therefore, the masses are right when they feel no enthusiasm because this runs counter to the law of social and historical evolution.

Fourth, the party Central Committee Military Commission and all party organization echelons must constantly improve or renovate their guidance and supervision. Is it true that we are still failing to renovate this domain to the extent that favorable conditions can be created for writers and artists to play their historical role more satisfactorily? Is it true that writers and artists cannot bring their historical role into full play because of visible or invisible restrictions? If it is true, then you, comrades, can pour forth criticism and expound your views honestly and frankly. We welcome your criticism and views. This will enable us to correct mistakes together.

In my opinion, supervision should be clearly directed and carried out in such a way as to create favorable conditions for writers and artists to devote all of their souls and talent to creating works of their own identity to serve society's common objectives. You, comrades,

should think about how to direct supervisory work and what conditions should be created so that joint discussions can be held and definite, clear decisions made on implementation. You, comrades, should advance boldly and accurately to the destination.

We agree with the General Political Department's view that in the next 5 to 10 years, it will be necessary to invest appropriately in key projects aimed at helping writers and artists create masterpieces of high ideological and artistic value, imbued with profound literary and historical characteristics, noble love, and humanity. This is to satisfy our needs, to educate the present generation, and to pass on to the next generation. Investment is also needed for training, fostering, and building an even better contingent of writers and artists in the Armed Forces.

We will set aside an appropriate part of the limited annual budget given by the state to the Defense Ministry for literary and artistic activities. Apart from this, we will encourage the entire Armed Forces to practice thrift and increase production in order to have sufficient investment capital for various literary and artistic projects so as to enable them to meet the requirements of history and the age. I believe the entire Armed Forces will support this idea.

The presentation of awards to 78 individuals and 4 units for their outstanding literary and art works on national defense and the Armed Forces in the 1984-89 period is an event of special significance. However, the organizing committee will have to conduct a study to correct any possible shortcomings in the presentation.

This presentation of awards affirms the meritorious services of the brother and sister writers and artists, and encourages them to continue developing their talent in support of the process of developing national defense and the Army, as well as in support of the process of using literature and art to record our Army's and people's great services in the past half century or so.

On this occasion, on behalf of the entire Armed Forces, I would like to express the hope that because of our common responsibility and for the sake of past, present, and future generations, our brother and sister writers and artists will strive to overcome all difficulties in order to devote themselves to creating many still better and finer works for our people, Army, and beloved country.

We firmly believe that you, comrades, will be able to do so because you are writers and artists who served in the Armed Forces and witnessed many ordeals and losses and moments of suffering, joy, and sadness in the struggle that demonstrated our people's heroic deeds, that brought the joy of victory to the country, and that unified the north and south into one—our beloved socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

On the occasion of the new year, may I wish you and your families a year of good health, joy, and happiness. Thank you, comrades.

Australia

Government May Send Troops to Bougainville

BK1901093790 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 19 Jan 90

[Text] Australia's foreign affairs minister, Senator Gareth Evans, said Australia's Defense Forces might be used on the Papua New Guinea island of Bougainville if the security of Australians becomes a serious risk.

Radio Australia's diplomatic correspondent, Stewart Heather, reports from Port Moresby the contingency plan has been drawn up for an evacuation. Senator Evans said he has talked with the prime minister, Mr Hawke, who has agreed there will be an appropriate response if Australians are at, what he termed, a real and imminent risk.

On Bougainville today, an Australian journalist was wounded when a helicopter came under fire; 36-year-old Mr Mark Baker of the MELBOURNE SUNDAY HERALD newspaper was shot in the shoulder and evacuated to the Panguna Medical Center by military helicopter. Radio Australia correspondent on the island, Rob Reskie, said it is believed Mr Baker was not badly injured.

Officials, Japanese Minister Discuss APEC

OW1201155690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1247 GMT 12 Jan 90

[Text] Sydney, Jan. 12 KYODO—Sumiko Takahara, Japanese state minister and director general of the Economic Planning Agency, discussed this year's economic prospects with Australian Treasurer Paul J. Keating and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Gareth J. Evans in Canberra Friday. Takahara flew to Australia earlier in the day on the last leg of a week-long trip to Singapore, Thailand and Australia which began on Monday.

She also talked with the Australian ministers about the future steering of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Conference, the first session of which was held in Canberra last November, Japanese sources said. Takahara asked Australia to send delegates to a meeting of economic experts which will be sponsored by her Economic Planning Agency in Tokyo in March. Keating promised he would dispatch his ministry's experts to the Tokyo forum. The forum is also expected to be joined by other foreign experts, including those from the six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the United States and South Korea.

Fiji

Indians Acquitted of Arms Smuggling Charge

BK1701075890 Hong Kong AFP in English 0617 GMT 17 Jan 90

[Text] Lautoka, Fiji, Jan. 17 (AFP)—A Fiji court Wednesday acquitted 18 men of smuggling a large amount of weapons and ammunition into this South Pacific nation nearly two years ago. Following a brief trial, the Lautoka High Court ordered the accused, all ethnic Indians, to be freed immediately and to pay only modest court costs of 50 Fiji dollars (50 U.S.) each.

The men were arrested following the smuggling of more than 10 tonnes of Soviet bloc weaponry into Fiji in May 1988, touching off speculation of an armed insurrection against the military government which came to power the previous year. Australian authorities had earlier seized a 12 tonne shipment of weapons and ammunition at a Sydney port bound for Fiji, triggering an international investigation that led to the Lautoka arrests. The administration used the arms smuggling as a pretext to impose the now repealed draconian internal security decree, which severely limited the expression of dissent in the republic.

Although the 18 had admitted to the charges, the men argued that they were simple cane farmers who had been tricked into involvement by Mohammed Rafiq Kahan, alleged by Fijian authorities as the mastermind behind the operation. Attempts to extradite Mr. Kahan from London to stand trial here were thwarted by the British courts, which considered the charges against him to be political, rather than criminal.

In his ruling on Wednesday, Justice Jayaratne said that the accused were not militants, military deserters or criminals and had never received training in using the weapons. Noting that they had been subject to intense interrogation and long custody, the judge said: "I don't intend to punish you further because you have suffered enough."

In evidence during the trial, the prosecution said that the weapons and ammunition were hidden in a consignment of old machinery imported into this western Fijian port in early 1988 and were later distributed to the men for safekeeping. Despite the huge consignments of weapons found, no incidents of their use were ever reported.